

Today is All Saints Sunday, commemorating all saints who went to their heavenly home to be with the Lord. These saints include all servicemen and women who sacrificed their lives for us to enjoy freedom. We will have a moment to honor veterans who are still with us next Sunday, November 14th. So, today we remember all saints who passed away but left their legacy with us.

On this All Saints Sunday, we have a calling story of King David, the second king of Israel. David, the youngest of Jesse's eight sons, is out in the field tending sheep. While he too was a son of Jesse, it seems that he was only fit for tending sheep in the eyes of his earthly father.

When Samuel came to Jesse's home looking at all seven of David's brothers as they passed by, God told Samuel that none of them was the one he was to anoint as the next king. God said to Samuel, "...The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7).

What's sad about this account is that initially David wasn't even presented by Jesse, his father, to Samuel. The shepherd boy, David, wasn't even considered as a possible candidate to be the anointed one. Only after Samuel asked if there were any other sons, Jesse called David in from the fields where he was tending sheep. Yet, he was the one God chose to be anointed as king.

The shepherd boy, David, was called, but his call to be a king was acknowledged by Prophet Samuel, who was fully tuned in to the voice of God. Because of this one Godly person, Samuel, who was willing to listen and obey God, the shepherd boy, David, was able to recognize his call to be a king. This Godly person we call today a "Saint." It only takes one person, one saint, to believe in David, to change his life forever. We are who we are today because we all have at least ONE Saint who believed in us.

However, some of us may feel that we have not gotten any "Saints" believing in us and feel stuck in the position, job, or place we may not want to be today. If that is true of your life today, know that you are not forgotten. You have the Lord Jesus Christ who gave up His life for you. He believes in you. He calls you by your

name. You are called to be a child of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, the Saint of all saints. May the living example of our saints teach us to live as the saints God has called us to be today. Amen.