

## **Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 16:8-12**

### **The One Who Loves More Than a father**

According to the commandment of God, Samuel went to Bethlehem to the house of Jesse and was waiting there to anoint one of his children as the next king. Since Jesse was informed that God has chosen one of his children to be the next king, he first sent his eldest son Eliab. Yesterday we saw how God chooses by seeing into the heart of the person and not by the outward appearance. God rejected him though he was physically well built. Next he sent his second son Abinadab. God did not choose him either. Thirdly he sent Shammah. He too was not the chosen one. Jesse made all the seven sons stand before Samuel. He said that none of them were chosen by God. Samuel asked Jesse if all his sons were present there. Jesse said that there remains the youngest son and he was grazing the sheep in the field. Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here." So he sent and brought him in. He was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the Lord said to Samuel, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!" His name was David.

### **Question:**

Though Jesse knew that one among his sons were to be anointed as the chosen king, why did he keep the seven at home and sent David to the fields to graze the sheep?

### **Answer:**

This is a question that arises in the minds of many. The first three sons of Jesse; Eliab, Abinadab and Shammah were mighty men and were serving the Israeli army under Saul. Though the other four were not as mighty as the first three, they were trained by their father in all things. He therefore wanted even the four to be at home and receive blessings from Samuel. There was need for someone to take care of the sheep that day. Even though he was a very handsome guy, David was not so much loved by his father due to some reasons. Therefore he sent David to take care of the sheep. But since the Heavenly father saw the heart of David and chose him, the father and all the brothers had to wait till

David came. Dear brother/sister, if your heart is pleasing to God, no one can stop you from receiving your blessings.

"Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me." Psalms 27:10

### **Prayer**

Heavenly father, even when all forsake me, You will never leave me. We thank you for the great Love that you showed us over the cross by laying down your life to save us from our sins. Amen