

A WEEKLY WORD

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Readings for the week of March 19, 2023:

Ephesians 5:8–14

John 9:1–41

1 Samuel 16:1–13

Psalm 23

In 1 Samuel 16, we read about how God sent Samuel to anoint a new King. God's choice for King was amongst Jesse's sons. Jesse presented seven of his sons before Samuel, but none of them were God's choice. The eighth and youngest son, David, was only presented when Samuel enquired if there were any others. David, was, in fact, God's choice for King, so, Samuel anointed him.

In John 9, we read about a man who was a beggar, who had been blind since birth. Jesus healed him, and enabled him to see, for the very first time.

Both David and the blind beggar were both considered "beneath, or less than" others, but, yet, God chose to lift them up, and accomplish great things through them.

This gives us a great reminder of how God sees us so much differently than we see ourselves, or how we see each other. 1 Samuel 16:7b, says, *For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.*

As Psalm 23 assures us, the Lord is our shepherd, our provider, our peace, our defender, our trustworthy guide, our restorer, and our eternal hope.

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!
(Psalm 118:29)