

Lent Devotion for Tuesday, March 28

# 1 Samuel 16:1-13

## CHOSEN, CALLED, AND EQUIPPED

*"The LORD said, 'Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.'"*

It is said that God does not call the qualified, but he qualifies the called. How many preparing for ministry can say, "Amen" to that statement? In ministry we are often asked to tell our call story. Call stories have many different beginnings. God calls his children from different times and places in life in service to him. Some may say "Why me?" or, "Why now?" Others will feel their calling and follow it and there are those that may fight the call along the way. When it is God who is making the call, you can follow him now, or follow him later. He knows the plan he has for those that are his chosen.

In 1 Samuel 16, Samuel is told by the Lord to go to Jesse of Bethlehem to anoint one of his sons as the king. After Jesse presents the sons that are his choice, Samuel finally meets David, the one that is God's choice. David is the youngest, the least likely to be chosen, but to God, he is the perfect choice. The Lord said, "Anoint him, for he is the one." God chose David for his heart and then equips him to be the chosen king of Israel.

As God equips us to serve him and to lead his flock, do we have the heart of David to be chosen and to accept God's call, following his lead for our lives? Are we prepared to shepherd his flock to be followers of the Savior? Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep" (Jn 10:11). Jesus did this for all humankind. During this season of Lent, let everyone remember this as God equips us, those called to follow him.

*Lord God, Holy Spirit, prepare our hearts to follow Jesus Christ, and equip us to be followers and makers of disciples of him. Amen.*