



Submerged: Finding Truth Beneath the Surface

June 19, 2016

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:1–13; Psalm 139:23–24

Bottom Line

People look at the _____, but God looks at the _____.

Talk It Over

1. What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
2. Describe a time you made a snap judgment about a person based on your first impression that turned out to be totally inaccurate. Why did you get it wrong?
3. What kinds of things do people do to maintain or improve their outward appearance? How much time do you devote to those types of things? Why do you think people are so concerned with how they look?
4. Read 1 Samuel 16:1–6. When Samuel first saw Eliab, he was convinced he was one God had chosen to be the new king. Though the Bible doesn't tell us, what do you think it might have been about Eliab that caused Samuel to be so impressed?
5. Read 1 Samuel 16:7. Why was God's perspective different from Samuel's? In what ways is it true that "people look at the outward appearance"? Why do you think that is?
6. If it's true that "people look at the outside, but God looks at the heart", what does that say about the relative time we spend attending to our outward appearance and the time we spend cultivating a heart that is pleasing to God? Are there any adjustments you need to make in your schedule to more closely align your priorities with God's?
7. Read Psalm 139:23–24. If you honestly pray these verses, what "anxious thoughts" or "offensive ways" might God reveal? Are you willing to open your heart to God's scrutiny?
8. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17–21 & John 3:16. How has God responded to our need for a cleansed heart? Have you accepted His proposal?