

## SESSION 5 - FROM AVOIDED TO ANOINTED

**MESSAGE BIG IDEA**

Turn the Page” by seeing people the way God sees people.

**SCRIPTURE**

1 Samuel 16:1-13; Ephesians 2:10

**ICEBREAKER & OPENING THOUGHT**

These opening questions will set the tone for the unfolding conversation. You want to help your group come away believing they are God’s masterpieces even when they don’t feel like it, and so is every other person they know. This insight is one of the most basic Christian insights, but is one we struggle to fully internalize.

**BIBLE DISCUSSION**

Allow for open discussion and push for a lot of observations of the text. Let people ask questions or bring up anything in the text that may bother them. As people look at verse seven, get them thinking about what we value today, and what qualities we might overlook in people.

There are lots of examples of God choosing the people you wouldn’t expect. God often selects people like Jacob who was the younger brother to Esau. Culturally you would expect the older brother to inherit the blessing and be chosen by God. Another example would be the story of Gideon when he chooses just 300 fighting men in the book of judges. Jesus’ own parents would have been from a lowly tribe and poor.

**LIFE APPLICATION**

This is the place to really dig in with the group and draw out some pretty big topics. Here are some potential follow up questions that get at the message.

- In what ways do you not see God in yourself?
- How can you grow in the way you see God in other people?
- Who can you bless with your words of affirmation?
- In what ways do you not believe in yourself? How can our group remind you of your value?

**CHALLENGE**

God sees himself in you. He sees your value, potential, and the significance you bring to the world. This week let’s pray that each of us would allow that message to sink in, and that we might see others in the same way. Whenever you are tempted to dismiss yourself or someone else this week, remember these words, “God sees himself in me,” or “God sees himself in them.”

Sign up for the Turn the Page Bible Experience ([communitychristian.org/bible](http://communitychristian.org/bible)). Catch up on past readings and podcasts by following the links on that page.