

April 10, 2016

Heroes of Faith, Part Two

*A series on Heroes of the Old and New Testament
"The act of faith is what distinguished our ancestors,
set them above the crowd," Hebrews 11:3 The Message*

"David: (Pastor Branden)

A Man After God's Own Heart"

"After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.'" Acts 13:22

A. David was chosen by God...

1. God chose David based on his heart and not appearance.

"But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The LORD doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.'" 1 Samuel 16:7

2. God chose David and anointed him at 16 years of age but he never became king until 30 years of age.

"So as David stood there among his brothers, Samuel took the flask of olive oil he had brought and anointed David with the oil. And the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David from that day on. Then Samuel returned to Ramah."

1 Samuel 16:13

3. God chose David to be listed in the "Faith Hall of Fame" in Hebrews 11.

"How much more do I need to say? It would take too long to recount the stories of the faith of... David..." Hebrews 11:32

4. God chose David to be the ancestor of Jesus Christ as Jesus was often called "Son of David."

"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David," Luke 1:32

5. David was written about more than any other character with 66 OT chapters and 59 NT references, and was the author of 79 Psalms.

B. David was a "man after God's own heart" ...

1. David had great faith in God.

"The LORD who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine." 1 Samuel 17:37a

2. David loved the Word of God.

"How I delight in your commands! How I love them! I honor and love your commands. I meditate on your decrees." Psalm 119:47-48

3. David was a thankful follower.

"I wash my hands to declare my innocence. I come to your altar, O LORD, singing a song of thanksgiving and telling of all your wonders." Psalm 26:6-7

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name." Psalm 100:4

4. David was repentant.

"Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin. For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night. Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just... Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Oh, give me back my joy again; you have broken me—now let me rejoice. Don't keep looking at my sins. Remove the stain of my guilt. Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you... Forgive me for shedding blood, O God who saves; then I will joyfully sing of your forgiveness. Unseal my lips, O Lord, that my mouth may praise you. You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one. You do not want a burnt offering. The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God." Psalm 51:1-17

5. David was honest about all his feelings and failings.

"Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again—my Savior and my God! Now I am deeply discouraged, but I will remember you..."

But each day the LORD pours his unfailing love upon me, and through each night I sing his songs, praying to God who gives me life. 'O God my rock,' I cry, 'Why have you forgotten me? Why must I wander around in grief, oppressed by my enemies?' Their taunts break my bones. They scoff, 'Where is this God of yours?' Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again—my Savior and my God!" Psalm 42:5-11

6. David practiced the power of praise.
"that I might sing praises to you and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever!" Psalm 30:12

C. How will you be a man or woman after God's own heart?

1. What are you believing God to do in or through your life by faith?
2. How much do you love the Word of God? How often do you read it?
3. How characteristic is thanksgiving a part of your life? Do you daily give thanks for all that is a part of your life...the good and the difficult?
4. Is there an area of your life that needs repentance? Is there a secret sin to forsake?
5. How do you need to be honest with God? Are you holding something against God that you feel He has not delivered? Are you angry about something in your life that has not turned out the way you think it should? Are you bitter?
6. Do you need to practice the sacrifice of praise? Do you need to give praise, in spite of your circumstances? Do you need to release a difficult area to God and to just praise Him?

*Become a man or woman after God's own heart
and discover the power of God as it is
released in your life!*

Next week...
April 17, 2016

"Daniel: (Pastor Ken)

A Godly Response to an Ungodly Request"

"But Daniel was determined not to defile himself by eating the food and wine given to them by the king. He asked the chief of staff for permission not to eat these unacceptable foods." Daniel 1:8