

HOW DO YOU KNOW GOD HAS BLESSED YOU?

By: Fountain Hendricks

(1st Samuel 16:8-23)

It is very important to realize when God has blessed you. Many people know they are blessed. However, they do not know how to recognize when they have been blessed.

Anytime God has blessed you there is **EVIDENCE** that follows. Please keep this in mind. God's blessings will change what you do and transform how you think.

CHANGING WHAT YOU DO AND ADDING TO WHAT YOU CARRY

(1st Samuel 16:8-23)

According to 1st Samuel 16:8-23 God blessed David tremendously. David was the son of Jesse. He had the

responsibility of caring for sheep. Caring for sheep was considered to be an entry level job.

The responsibilities of a Sheppard were not admirable. Even though David's job was on a small level he was the best at what he did. **EXCELLENCE INSPIRES GOD TO BLESS YOU!** God is not focused on what you do. He is focused on **HOW** you do it.

SELF EXAMINATION: Do you work in mediocrity or excellence? God's promotion is predicated on how you work.

DOING YOUR BEST IN YOUR CURRENT POSITION WILL INFLUENCE GOD TO PROMOTE YOU. Joel Osteen said it best, "*bloom where you are planted.*" If people do not see your value, God does. Remember, promotion comes from the Lord.

David's family did not acknowledge his work as a Sheppard. They did not understand how hard he worked.

When God decides to bless someone **HE SEES WHAT PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW**. If you bloom where you are planted, the Lord will promote you to the next level.

When God blesses an individual they carry **GREATER RESPONSIBILITY**. When your responsibility increases God has blessed you. A blessing disguises itself as an opportunity. An opportunity may not always come through a positive avenue.

THE GREATEST BLESSINGS USUALLY COMES THROUGH THE VEHICLE OF NEGATIVITY. In 1st Samuel 16:15 king Saul was troubled by an evil spirit sent from God. King Saul's trouble was David's opportunity.

YOUR GREATEST BLESSING WILL COME FROM NEGATIVE CIRCUMSTANCES. If king Saul was never troubled David would have never been invited to the king's palace. Because of Saul's trouble David went from the pasture to the palace. This blessing instantly changed David's **RESPONSIBILITIES**.

David understood that excellence inspires God. He was the best harp player in the land. David was skilled enough to play soundly while anointed to cast out evil spirits. God blessed David a second time.

In 1st Samuel 16:21 king Saul said, "*he liked David.*" The favor of God was on David's life. King Saul promoted David to an officer who carried his armor. The second ingredient in recognizing God has blessed you is when He has given you favor with men.

Attaining favor with men places you in the position of being **TRUSTED**. If you want to know what a blessed person looks like, look for a person who carries a multitude of responsibilities. A person who carries a plethora of responsibilities has proven to be **TRUSTWORTHY**.

A new blessing is always **ATTACHED TO NEW RESPONSIBILITIES**. David went from being a Sheppard

to being an officer in the king's palace. If you are a person who avoids responsibility you will **NEVER** be blessed by God.

WHEN YOU EMBRACE RESPONSIBILITY,
BLESSINGS WILL CHASE YOU. IF YOU WALK AWAY
FROM RESPONSIBILITY MISFORTUNE WILL
CHASE YOU.

Be responsible with what you have and God will bless you
with **MORE**.

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