

# A LIKE HIS

*a First Fifteen devotional guide*

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## INTRODUCTION TO THE LIFE OF DAVID

The man named David is one of the most important and intriguing figures in the Bible. In his early life, he was nothing more than a shepherd boy. Then, he was unexpectedly anointed as King of Israel at a young age around 1000BC. David is still respected as the greatest king of Israel. God made a promise to David that would eventually be fulfilled through David's distant descendant, Jesus Christ. David is included as a centerpiece of the lineage of Jesus, giving meaning and understanding to God's plan throughout history.

Despite all this, David was a deeply flawed individual. He might be best known for his worst failure. David was nothing close to perfect. However, there was something about David that caused God to choose him for a special and sacred purpose. What was it?

1 Samuel 16:7 says, "The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." God found in David a heart that was fixed on Him. Even with all of his sinful imperfection, David loved God first and most. Many years later, people recognized David as "a man after God's own heart." From David's life, we see that God cares most about our hearts. He wants us to love Him first and most.

The story of the life of David is found in the Old Testament books of 1 & 2 Samuel. This devotional guide will walk you through the events of his life. When we discover God's heart through David story, we can start to develop a heart like His, too.

## THE FIRST 15

Can you believe that the Creator of the Universe wants to spend time with you? God loves you and wants you to know him. If we're honest, though, spending time with God is often the furthest thing from our minds. What if there was a simple way to change this?

Would you be willing to spend ***the first 15 minutes*** of everyday with God? It may sound intimidating, but this simple commitment could change everything about your day. Take the First 15 Challenge by committing to spend the first 15 minutes of each day with God, using this devotional guide.

It may take discipline to get up a few minutes earlier or choose to do this before you turn on the TV or go online. But there is no more powerful earthly experience than enjoying a relationship with the Giver of Hope. The best way to grow in your relationship with God is to spend time with him.

It is said that a habit can be formed in 21 days. This 4-week guide will help you establish a daily rhythm by providing you with 6 daily devotions for each week. Each devotion includes a Scripture reading and a section for notes, reflection and prayer. The next page will provide a simple approach to Bible reading called SOAP, which can help you make the most of your time with God each day.

## HOW TO USE THE DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Reading the Bible can be intimidating. This booklet offers a simple approach that will help you get the most out of your time in God's Word. It is always a good idea to begin by asking God to help you listen to what He wants to say to you. This resource is set up for you to read the daily Scripture and then use the following structure to guide your conversation with God. There is room on each page for you to write your responses.

- **Scripture:** Write the Scripture reference for the passage you are studying.
- **Observation:** What is one thing that stands out to you from the passage? Is there a theme to the passage? Does it reveal a truth about God, faith, life, people?
- **Application:** How does this apply to your life? Does it change what you believe? Could it impact how you view yourself, others, or the world around you? Will you let it change the way you live?
- **Prayer:** Talk to God about what you have read and how you'll respond.

**Memory Verse:** Each week has a memory verse that corresponds to Sunday's message. Spend the last couple minutes of your devotion reading, repeating, and remembering the memory verse. By memorizing Scripture, we are able to take God's Word with us wherever we go.



# A HEART LIKE HIS, week one

**Scripture: 1 Samuel 16**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” **1 Samuel 16:7**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week one

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 17

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” **1 Samuel 16:7**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week one

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 18 - 19

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” **1 Samuel 16:7**



# A HEART LIKE HIS, week one

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 20

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” **1 Samuel 16:7**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week one

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 21 - 22

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” **1 Samuel 16:7**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week one

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 23 - 24

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” **1 Samuel 16:7**



# A HEART LIKE HIS, week two

**Scripture: 1 Samuel 25**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:**

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. **Romans 12:21**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week two

**Scripture: 1 Samuel 26 - 28:2**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:**

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. **Romans 12:21**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week two

**Scripture: 1 Samuel 28:3 - 29:11**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:**

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. **Romans 12:21**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week two

**Scripture: 1 Samuel 30 - 31**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:**

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. **Romans 12:21**



# A HEART LIKE HIS, week two

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 1**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:**

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. **Romans 12:21**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week two

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 2 - 3:5**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:**

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. **Romans 12:21**



# A HEART LIKE HIS, week three

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 3:6 - 4:12**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:8**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week three

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 5 - 6**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:8**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week three

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 7 - 8**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:8**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week three

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 9 - 10**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:8**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week three

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 11 - 12**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:8**



# A HEART LIKE HIS, week three

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 13**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:8**



# A HEART LIKE HIS, week four

**Scripture:** 2 Samuel 14 - 15

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.” **2 Samuel 24:24a**

# A HEART LIKE HIS, week four

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 16 - 17:23**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.” **2 Samuel 24:24a**

## A HEART LIKE HIS, week four

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 17:24 - 19:8**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.” **2 Samuel 24:24a**

## A HEART LIKE HIS, week four

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 19:9 - 20:6**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.” **2 Samuel 24:24a**

## **A HEART LIKE HIS, week four**

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 21 - 22**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.” **2 Samuel 24:24a**

## **A HEART LIKE HIS, week four**

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 23 - 24**

**Observation:**

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**Application:**

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**Prayer:**

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**Memory Verse:** But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.” **2 Samuel 24:24a**

## NOW WHAT?

Congratulations! You finished reading through the Life of David in 1 & 2 Samuel. That’s worth celebrating, even if it took a few extra days or you missed a couple chapters. Hopefully, your time of reading and prayer is helping you know God better and grow in your relationship with him.

Now that you are finished with this First 15 Challenge, you may be wondering what’s next. It is easy to lose momentum in your daily rhythm if you don’t quickly decide what to read and study next. Your relationship with God is too important to regress back into inconsistent time together. First, you need to decide what part of the Bible you will read. Here are some suggestions to choose from:

- **The Gospel of John** is a biography about Jesus written by one of his closest friends. This is a great book to read if you want to know Jesus better.
- **Romans** is a letter written by Paul (one of the first Christians and a powerfully missionary in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century) to Christians in Rome. This may be the clearest explanation of the Good News of Jesus and our response to what He’s done for us.
- **Genesis** is the first book of the Bible and it tells of the beginning of God’s plan to redeem the world from sin and its effects.

- **Proverbs** was written by King Solomon, a man whom God chose to bless with great wisdom and understanding. This book is a collection of wisdom axioms from the wisest man in history, except for Jesus of course. The writings of Solomon still have profound insight for relationships, money, time management, parenting, overcoming sin, friendship, and more.

After you decide where to go next, commit to reading one chapter a day. We recommend continuing to use the **SOAP** approach to Bible reading. This practice is most beneficial if you use a journal. Go and buy a composition notebook, a pretty journal, or whatever makes you excited to sit down and write in it. Keep spending your First 15 with God each day. When you finish your next book of the Bible, choose another and keep going!

**Disclaimer:** As you read and study the Bible, you probably won't understand everything. That is totally okay. Don't get discouraged. Just look for one observation and apply it to your life. Then, talk to God about what you are reading. Keep it simple.

Finally, find someone that you can meet with regularly to help each other grow as disciples of Jesus. God created us to live in relationships with others. Intentional relationships help us learn to follow Jesus, love others, and make more disciples. Use this time together to share how God is talking to you and changing you through your experience of Bible reading and prayer. When this happens, you will grow and the other person will, too. You will experience the mission of Jesus first hand-making disciples of Jesus in relationships.

## WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU?

We want to help you continue to grow as a disciple of Jesus in relationships. Here are a few steps for you to consider:

- **Take a class!** This provides an environment for you to grow in a specific area of faith and connect with people from within the church.
- **Join a group!** Groups meet throughout the week in various locations. Joining a group enables you to connect with people who are also seeking to grow as disciples by meeting regularly and discovering how the Bible applies to life.
- **Serve on a team!** Ministry Teams are a great way to put your faith into action while helping someone else experience more of the blessing of the church. It is a powerful expression of selflessness that will surely bless you most of all.

If you're interested in taking a next step, check out the "Get Involved" tab at [BridgePointeChristian.com](http://BridgePointeChristian.com) or email [josh@bridgepointechristian.com](mailto:josh@bridgepointechristian.com) to find out more.