

1st Samuel:16:1

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."

If you google the name David from the Bible, you will get tons of pictures and articles on David slaying Goliath. But there aren't many mentions about him while he was tending the sheep, yet those were the days that led him to the triumph of killing the giant. David was the last son. If you have multiple children like me you know that with your first child, you are super excited. By the time the second one comes, you already know the goods and the bads so you're not as excited. I did everything for Kayla, then came Gabby and I did half of what I did with Kayla. By the time Melody came I wanted her to be independent by her first birthday. So I can imagine Jesse, after 8 kids, he wasn't concerned about David, he probably raised himself. On top of that he looked completely different from his family. He stood out from the rest yet he was forgotten and underestimated.

So this small message is for a specific audience, people like David, like myself, for the loners, the weirdos, the introverts, the antisocial ones, the forgotten, the invisible, the ones that don't fit in. We are not like everyone else, we see things differently. We have a different perspective. We can read people with a magnifying glass. How they behave, how they talk, how they walk, facial gestures, we see different colors, shapes, flowers, we see the tinies bugs, the farthest bird, when the first leaves fall to the ground at the end of the summer, we notice. We notice everything around us but we are not good at seeing ourselves. We are not good at being alone in our own skin. We don't know how to connect or reach out, how to say help, how to express what we are feeling because we just don't know how. We don't know how to hurt, or cry, or scream. We don't know how to let out the pain, the fear, the loneliness. We don't know what to do when the night gets dark and quiet but the voices in our head are loud and hateful. What do we do when we don't like the person in the mirror. What do we do when we don't like what we are, who we are. We wear a mask. We paint smiles on our faces. We say we are ok but we are not.

Maybe at his young age David had reached this point in his life. But in the wilderness, in the quiet, in the forgotten, in the loneliness, while he did the most ordinary job, he found God and saw Him face to face. In that verse you can see that God's eye was on him when he didn't even know it. While you think you are "forgotten" you are a king or a queen.

Im in a place myself, a season of waiting that is hard, a season where God is silent. In case you don't know, right now my husband and I have some financial struggles and we live with my Inlaws and it has been the hardest pill to swallow. It has been so hard but after a few years, I can say it has been the best thing that ever happened to us. God has been working inside us in a way that its hard to explain. If you don't know God and how He

works you will not understand this. I'm still uncomfortable but I feel different, my husband is still uncomfortable but something inside him has shifted and he's different. A year ago I was unhappy and constantly complaining and I just wanted out of my situation by any means possible. And my prayer was, this is what I want, this is what I need and if I don't get it, I'm gonna do it my way. This is the wrong attitude to have. But mistake after mistake and closed door after closed door I had no choice but to wave the white flag towards heaven. I have learned more about myself in these past 4 to 5 years that I ever have in my life, so far. To those that feel so lost and out of place, you are not out of place. You are exactly where you are supposed to be. In everything that you're going through, God is working and using it for your advantage. If you don't like what you see in the physical mirror, look at the Spiritual mirror, your bible. That's where you will see yourself as you are and as God sees you. That's where you will be reminded of how much you are loved by a God who gave it all up just for you. He sees you. He is watching you closely. He has not missed a thing. In the midst of your pain and your tears God wants to have an intimate moment with you. Don't underestimate the power that lies behind your struggle. These are the moments that God will use to grow a better and stronger relationship with you. When you're feeling depressed, confused, stressed out, He's trying to get your undivided attention. The human heart is far more deeper than we think and who can understand it better than the one who made it. Whenever you find yourself in a dark place, read 1 Kings: 19:11-12. Turn everything off, turn the music off, isolate yourself, leave the phone behind, breathe and listen for the Shepherd's voice.