



## Camp RidgeKids 2025 | Elementary Bible Story (Day 1)

### Day 1 Bible Story Script: God Looks at the Heart

**Text:** Based on 1 Samuel 16:1-13

**Big Idea:** God sees value that others overlook

**Waypoint:** *Brilliance – I am God’s One-of-a-Kind Masterpiece*

**Key Verse:** Ephesians 2:10

#### 1. Opening – Real Talk + Personal Story

**Storyteller:**

Have you ever wished you were someone else?

Maybe taller? Stronger? Better at sports? More popular? Just... different?

(Pause to let it sink in.)

I know I have.

(Tell a 30–60 second personal story. Examples: not making the team, being compared to a sibling, being laughed at, or overlooked. Keep it honest and age-appropriate.)

For a while, I believed what other people said about me—or what I *told myself* about me. I thought I wasn’t enough. I didn’t see anything special in me.

But here’s what I wish I knew then:

**God saw something different. God saw something valuable.**

#### 2. Introduce the Object – Muddy Diamond

(Hold up a **mud-covered diamond**—dirty and crusty.)

Let me show you something.

Can anyone guess what this is?

(Encourage responses: “Rock?” “Dirt?” “Trash?”)

It looks like nothing special, right? Just a chunk of dried mud. You’d probably throw it away.

But what if I told you... there’s something *valuable* hiding underneath this?

(Brief dramatic pause. Smile. But **don’t clean it off yet.**)

We’ll come back to this in a bit.



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But first, let me tell you about someone who looked ordinary... even invisible... but God saw something brilliant inside of him.

### 3. The Bible Story – 1 Samuel 16:1–13

#### Scene 1 – God Sends Samuel

Israel needed a new king. The old king, Saul, had stopped listening to God.

So God told a prophet named **Samuel**:

“Go to Bethlehem. Find a man named Jesse. One of his sons will be the next king.”

Samuel obeyed and traveled to Jesse’s home, ready to meet the next ruler of Israel.

#### Scene 2 – The Impressive Lineup

Jesse brought out his oldest son, **Eliab**.

He looked like a king—tall, strong, confident. Samuel thought, “This has to be the one!”

But God said something surprising:

“Don’t look at how tall or strong he is. I don’t see people the way humans do. People look at the outside... **but I look at the heart.**”

Jesse brought out the next son... and the next... and the next.

**Seven sons.** All of them looked the part.

But God said no to every single one.

#### Scene 3 – The Forgotten One

Samuel looked at Jesse and asked, “Are these all your sons?”

Jesse said, “Well... there *is* one more. The youngest. But he’s just out watching the sheep.”

Nobody even *considered* him important enough to invite to the party.

But Samuel said, “Go get him.”

So they ran to bring in **David**, a young shepherd boy.

#### Scene 4 – God’s Choice

David walked in—probably dusty, dirty, and smelling like sheep.

He didn’t look like a king.



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But God said:

“That’s him. Anoint him. He’s the one I’ve chosen.”

And right there, in front of his surprised brothers, Samuel anointed David with oil. God’s Spirit came on him in power.

Everyone else saw a little brother.

But **God saw a masterpiece.**

### 4. Return to the Object – The Reveal

(Hold up the muddy diamond again.)

Remember this?

When you first saw it, it looked like trash, like it had no value.

But what if we looked a little deeper?

(Start **breaking away the mud**, revealing the shiny diamond beneath. Hold it up high.)

**This was here the whole time.**

You couldn’t see it because of all the mud.

Sometimes, we do the same thing with *ourselves*.

We think:

- “I’m not talented enough.”
- “I’m not good-looking enough.”
- “I’m not as smart as they are.”
- “I’m just... ordinary.”

We let the mud of comparison or what others say **cover up** the truth.

But **God sees past the mud**. He sees the diamond inside. He sees the **brilliance** He placed in you from the very beginning.

### 5. You Are God’s Masterpiece

Ephesians 2:10 says:

“We are God’s handiwork—created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”



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You are not an accident. You are not invisible. **You are not worthless.**

You are God's masterpiece. Created on purpose. Crafted with brilliance.

Just like David, **you were made for something more.**

### **6. Final Reflection**

So let me ask you:

#### **How do you see yourself?**

Do you see the mud? Or do you believe there's a masterpiece underneath?

God does.

He always has.

He's looking at your heart—not your height, your looks, or your popularity.

So the next time you feel “less than,” remember this diamond.

And remember this truth:

**God sees value that others overlook. Even the value you've overlooked in yourself.**