

**September 16, 2018**  
**Message Title: Be Who You Are**  
**Teaching Pastor: Brian C. Hughes**

*This study guide has been designed for Small Groups in mind, and can be used by individuals as well.*

## Key Points

1. Read 1 Samuel 16:1-13  
Why did Samuel think that Eliab was the chosen one?

What did God say to Samuel in verse 7?

How would you apply 1 Sam 16:7 in your life?
2. *On Sunday, Brian talked about three things that we can do to begin to work on the 'heart' instead of outward appearance. Let's go deeper with each of them.*

Work on Character. A character crack is a place where you're character needs to be addressed. Examine the big areas of your life. Where are the cracks in your character?

If you're having trouble identifying a personal character crack, consider this: How do you behave when you are frustrated with your spouse, your child, your employer, while you're driving?

Are there any patterns you see of behavior that is less-than-good?

When patterns of not-so-good behavior show up that is usually an indicator of an underlying character crack. Pray and Ask God to help you address that character issue. Also, enlist the help of someone to hold you accountable.

**3.** Believe the Best. Do you actually believe the best about others, even when they mistreat you or hurt you in some way?

Or do you blame them, heap guilt on them or demonize them?

Ask people around you that you trust if you believe the best about others or if you speak ill of others often.

**4.** Focus on God. The only way to ultimately change your heart is to allow God to go deep and alter you from the inside. Galatians 5:22-23 is a good place to go to focus on the Fruit of the Spirit. When we give our lives completely to God, He will produce good fruit inside of us. That fruit then becomes evident outside, too.

What is one way that you can focus on God more with your life?

Is there one thing you're willing to commit to that will increase your life's God focus in the coming weeks?

Pray and Ask God to help you see the heart - yours and others people's  
instead of outward appearances.

**Notes:**