



Biblical Drama based on 1 Samuel 16:1-13
Character Parts: Narrators 1-8, God, Samuel, Jesse

Narrator 1: The first king of Israel, King Saul, was not a very good leader. He refused to listen to God. The people were upset. God was upset. So God went to the prophet Samuel.

God: How long will you feel bad about Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Now fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse in the town of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of Jesse's sons to be the new king.

Samuel: How can I go to make a new king? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.

God: Here's what you need to do. Take a cow with you, and say to everyone, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. You shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.

Samuel: You want me to what?

God: I want you to *anoint* him — that means to pour oil on his head. It's the ceremony I invented for making someone a king.

Samuel: It sounds slick!

Narrator 2: Samuel did what the LORD commanded and went to Bethlehem. The elders of the city were afraid to see God's servant. They came to meet him nervously.

Samuel: I come in peace. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Get yourselves ready and come with me to the sacrifice.

Narrator 3: Samuel invited Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice and got them ready. Jesse's sons lined up in front of the prophet. Samuel looked at the oldest son, Eliab.

Samuel: *(to himself)* Surely this is the one that the LORD has chosen.

God: *(to Samuel)* Do not look on his appearance or on how tall he is, because I have rejected him. I am the LORD. I do not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but I look into the heart.

Narrator 4: Then Jesse called his second son, Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel.

God: No. Not him.

Samuel: *(to himself again)* That is strange. *(aloud)* The LORD has not chosen this boy, either.

Narrator 5: Then Jesse made his third son, Shammah, pass by.

God: Nope.

Samuel: Again, the LORD has not chosen this one.

Narrator 6: Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but the result was the same.

God: Nope ... nope ... nope ... and nope.

Samuel: The LORD has not chosen any of these. Are these all the sons you have?

Jesse: No. There is one more: the youngest. My son David is out in the fields, taking care of the sheep.

Samuel: Send for him and bring him in; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.

Narrator 7: They sent for David and brought him in. The boy was tan and had beautiful eyes. He was very handsome.

God: Rise and anoint him; for this is the one I have chosen.

Narrator 8: Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed the boy right there; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon young David from that day on.