

**AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP**  
**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

**Topic: A Man After God's Heart**  
**Text: 1 Samuel 13:14**

**Wednesday, November 13th, 2024**  
**Facilitator: Nneoma Ewurum**

**Introduction**

David is probably the most recognized King in the history of Israel. The Old Testament documents his life from its early beginnings, his defeat of Goliath in defense of God and his people, his service to God through his loyalty to King Saul, his years as King including his sin of adultery and the loss of his son Absalom, and his final instructions to his son Solomon on his death bed. Yet, one major thing that stands out regarding David is a phrase God used to describe him that is used for no other person in the Bible, "a man after my own heart". As a Christian I can think of no higher compliment than to be described as a man or woman with a heart after God's heart.

Why would God put such a high affirmation on this man? He committed murder and adultery. did that not disqualify him? How can I have a heart after God's heart, like David had?

***What does it mean to be a person after God's own heart?***

*After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do. - Acts 13:22..*

God desires an obedient heart. *But Samuel replied, "What is more pleasing to the Lord: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams. 1 Samuel 15:22*

We show that we love God and our hearts are for Him through our obedience. John 14:15.

It also means your life is in harmony with the Lord. What is important to Him becomes important to you. What burdens Him burdens you. When He says to do anything, you immediately obey without delay or grumbling.

What is God looking for? He is not looking for people who seem to be perfect or who externally appear to have it all together. He is looking for men and women whose hearts are His—*completely*. He is looking for those who prioritize their relationship with Him above everything else in their lives. Those who surrender their desires, ambitions, and choices to align with His will and purpose.

*The eyes of the Lord search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. 2 Chronicles 16:9a.*

**Other Key Characteristics of David's Life That Made Him a Man After God's Own Heart**

1. David's Faith. 1 Samuel 17:47. David's most well-known accomplishment was his defeat of the Philistine giant, Goliath. It took courage to face a sword-wielding giant with nothing but a sling and some rocks. David acknowledged it was God enabling him to face Goliath before the giant was hit by the stone. It was through his faith that God empowered him to be successful

***What other ways did David display faith in the scripture? What lessons can we learn from this applicable to our own lives?***

2. David loved God's law. 1 Samuel 24:12-13. Psalm 119: 47-48. David repeatedly mentioned how much he loved God's perfect law! "For I delight in your commands because I love them. I lift up my hands to your commands, which I love, and I meditate on your decrees" (Psalm 119:47-48).
3. David's love and desire for God. 2 Samuel 6:6-15 - He escorted the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem so that God could be in the presence of his people and his people in the presence of their God. 1 Kings 8:17-18 - Desire to build a temple for God. Psalm 42: 1 - Hunger and thirst for God.
4. David's Humility. In 1 Samuel 16:11-13, David learned that he would be king. In 1 Samuel 17:15, 20, however, we find David going back to tend the sheep. Would you tend the sheep if you knew you were the future king of Israel? David was humble, and God likes that in a person (James. 4:6-10; Philippians 2:5-9). The ultimate sign of a fool is arrogance (Proverbs 28:26).
5. David dependence on God. He always asked God before he went into war. 1 Samuel 30:8.
6. David's Repentance. Though David made horrible decisions resulting in adultery and murder, he took responsibility and had sincere remorse for his actions. He earnestly sought God's forgiveness. David wrote Psalm 51, "A Contrite Sinners Prayer for Pardon," after his sin of adultery with Bathsheba and the murder of Uriah. In this Psalm, David brokenheartedly confesses his sin and asked for God's forgiveness and restoration. Samuel 11:1-26.
7. David's heart of worship and praise for God. David's life was marked by moments of worship, both in public and in private. He danced and worshipped wholeheartedly before God when the Ark of the Lord was being brought back. His wife, Michal, disapproved of his behavior and called him vulgar but David responded, "I will celebrate before the Lord. I will become even more undignified than this. David however did not care about how he appeared to others when worshiping or praising God. 2 Samuel 6:14-22. Psalm 63:1-5. Psalm 27:4

***Why must we seek to be men and women after God's own heart? What do we stand to gain when we allow our hearts to be wholly His?***

1. Deuteronomy 11:13-15. "And it shall be that if you earnestly obey My commandments which I command you today, to love the LORD your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, then I will give you the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil. And I will send grass in your fields for your livestock, that you may eat and be filled" (NKJV).
2. Purpose and Fulfillment
3. Eternal reward