

HEART OF DAVID

Drawing Strength from God

Becoming Secure in God

TAKEAWAY: Like David, through God's Spirit, we can cultivate a dynamic relationship with God that becomes a life-giving source of strength and security.

Marks of a person whose strength is in themselves, not God (an **insecure** person):

- Self confidence (pride) interspersed with self doubt - based on circumstances
Rely on their own strength and understanding.
- Are known for their abilities and outward attributes.
1 Samuel 10:23-24 (Saul is impressive, a head taller than others)
- Hide from others.
1 Sam. 10:21-22 (at Coronation Saul is hiding among the baggage)
- Avoid confrontation.
1 Sam. 10:26-27 (Saul is silent about those who despise him as king)
- When things aren't working out, take "control" of the situation inappropriately
- Do things out of fear of people leaving them/ rejecting them.
1 Sam. 13:8-9 (Saul makes the priest's sacrifice when people start leaving)
- Instead of accepting God's grace (undeserved favor), try desperate things to earn God's favor.
1 Sam. 14:24 (Saul orders the soldiers in the battle to fast)
- Try to cover their mistakes, make excuses, and blame others.
1 Sam. 15:19-21 (Saul claims to have done God's will, blames his soldiers)
- Orient their lives around what people think of them, try to look good to others.
1 Sam. 15:24,30 ("I was afraid of the men and so I gave in to them.")
- Have a spiritual life dependent on other people rather than directly with God.
1 Sam. 15:25, 16:23 (Saul wants Samuel to go with him to worship God)
- Are unaware of others or use them as tools.
1 Sam. 16:21-23; 17:55 (Saul has David as a personal musician and armor bearer but doesn't even know his name)

Marks of a person whose strength is in God (a **secure** person):

- God confidence – beyond circumstances
Can rest in God's strength, understanding, and timing.
- Are known for their heart, their faith in God.
1 Samuel 16:7 (God looks at the heart, not outwardly)
- Know that God has a plan and calling on their lives, empowered by the Spirit of God.
1 Sam. 16:13 (David is anointed as king much before he becomes one; the Spirit of God came on him with power)
- Can handle insults and criticism without becoming reactive.
1 Sam. 17:28-29
- Intentionally remember God's past faithfulness during times of anxiety.
1 Sam. 17:34-37
- Know who they are and don't have to conform to others' expectations or fears.
1 Sam. 17:38-40
- Trust God's strength in challenges bigger than themselves.
1 Sam. 17:45-47
- Lean into challenges instead of shying away from them.
1 Sam. 17:48; 17:32
- Are OK even when not recognized or overlooked.
1 Sam. 17:55-58

How did David cultivate such a dynamic relationship with God?

David Shared his life with God in an honest, transparent, raw way.

David Bent his heart toward God,
He pushed through the wreckage until he found his genuine, joyful heart of praise.

“...the Psalms were...the centerpiece in the cultivation of faith, the action-shaping school of prayer in which men and women learned to give answer out of every part of their being to the God who was calling all creation and all redemption into existence. -Eugene Peterson

David brought himself to God (all of himself) and he brought the reality of God to himself.

Like David, we can cultivate a dynamic relationship with God that becomes a life-giving source of strength and security.