

## Prayer "To See as God Sees"



**Introduction:** Before we begin our afternoon meeting, let us pause to recall how God knows us intimately, our every thought and action and let us ask for the wisdom of the Holy Spirit to help us discern our future community leadership.

**Song:** Bernadette Farrell [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mEGc3\\_D19Vo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mEGc3_D19Vo)

**Reading:** 1 Samuel 16:7

But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider how handsome or tall he is. I have not chosen him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outside of a person. But the LORD looks at what is in the heart."

### Commentary

God gives Samuel the job of finding a replacement for Saul, a man who stood head and shoulders above everyone else but was a midget in spiritual terms. God guides Samuel to the household of Jesse and his multitude of sons. Samuel sees the strapping lad, Eliab and makes the same mistake as with Saul. He assumes that outward impressiveness indicates inward fitness to the rule. God was looking for someone with the right heart. Today, it's awfully easy for us to be misled by appearances too.



### Contemplative reflection

Are we able to see as God sees or are we impressed with outward appearances? (Pause 15 seconds)

This afternoon as we further explore the role of congregational leadership and are informed about our recommendation process may we continue to ask for the grace of discernment to see as God sees.