



TRUST ISSUES

*The #1 catalyst for spiritual growth is reading and reflecting on the Bible.
Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.*

INTRODUCTION

2/25/2018

Appearance often sets the stage for our interactions with and expectations of others. However, appearance does not always reveal or align with character. Character must take precedence.

QUESTIONS

1. What did you learn about God's character from this Sunday's message?
2. How might you see God differently based on this message?
3. Re-read 1 Samuel 17:8-11, 32,33, and 40-45. What comes to mind when you think of David and Goliath, or even the concept of facing your "giants"?
4. When have you been caught off guard by someone's appearance, who later proved to have great character?
5. How can you step beyond the initial appearance-based judgment of others? How about God?
6. John talked about the value American culture places on appearance. What might result from prioritizing appearance over character?
7. In 1 Samuel 16:7, the Lord is described as not looking at an individual's appearance but looking on the heart. What does this reveal about who God is?

8. How does God's approach to the individual affect how we view others? How about how we view ourselves?

9. The appearance of David was misleading when it came to his battle against Goliath. In the end, what gave David a sense of confidence? Why was he able to be confident in this source?

10. Earlier in 1 Samuel, David is described as a man after God's heart—it was a matter of worship. David's worship was based on the understanding of a powerful God who is able to do more than he could on his own. Where in your life could you benefit from someone more able to effect and change things than you might be at this moment?

11. We are confronted daily with other people's opinions of God, or appearances of God that may not be accurate. Is there one aspect of God that you might want to study a little further?

Can your group think of some resources or scriptures that might help in this pursuit?

12. How can you take one step further in your pursuit of trusting God? What might this look like?

13. Can you identify 2-3 ways that you might practice worshipping God this week—making him the focus of your heart?

Closing Prayer

Father, you are great and powerful able to do more than I can hope or imagine. Thank you for loving me and based on that love caring for and delivering me. Help me to better understand who you are and to trust you despite those things that I do not yet understand. Give me eyes and ears like David, who when all things seemed impossible sought to worship you and saw your power working even in the face of great challenge. In Jesus name I pray, amen.