

# 1 Samuel 16:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David thy son, which is with the sheep.

## Analysis

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**Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David thy son, which is with the sheep.**

Saul's summons for 'David thy son, which is with the sheep' emphasizes both David's lowly occupation and his father's possession of him. The messenger terminology (mal'akim) suggests formal royal communication. Jesse would understand this as an honor - royal service for his youngest son - without knowing the deeper divine purpose. God wove human initiative and divine intention together seamlessly.

## Historical Context

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Service in the royal court provided social advancement, military training, and political connections. Jesse's compliance with the king's request was expected of loyal subjects. The formal nature of the summons indicates David was being officially recruited rather than casually borrowed.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How might seemingly ordinary opportunities be doorways to God's larger purposes?
2. What does God's use of royal summons teach about His sovereignty over political structures?

## Interlinear Text

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שְׁלֶחַ הַ	שָׂא וּלְ	מַלְאָכָיִם	אֶל	יֵשׁוּ י	וַיֹּאמֶר	שְׁלֶחַ הַ
Send	Wherefore Saul	messengers	H413	unto Jesse	and said	Send
H7971	H7586	H4397		H3448	H559	H7971
אֶתְּ אֵלַי	דָּוִד	בְּנֶךְ	אִשְׁרֵי	בְּצֵאן:		
H413	H853	me David	thy son	H834	which is with the sheep	
	H1732	H1121		H6629		

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Samuel 16:11** (Parallel theme): And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.

**1 Samuel 17:15** (References David): But David went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Beth-lehem.