

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1. God told Samuel that our natural bent is to look at the outside of people. (I Samuel 16:7) How are you swayed by the external appearance of people? Think about how that plays out on a day to day basis for you. Share those examples.
2. How do we develop eyes that see past the external and look at the heart of someone else? How is that possible for us as people? What is needed for us to routinely allow the core of someone else to be what catches our attention rather than what we can plainly see with our eyes?
3. Think through the idea of compassion. What does that mean to you? How do you understand it? Look at the references in the sermon notes following compassion and read those stories. What did Jesus do in those stories? How did compassion translate into his actions?
4. Who are the people who tend to disappear for you? Who are the ones in need that become so familiar you just don't see them anymore? I know. If you knew who they were then they wouldn't be the ones who have disappeared. But figure it out! Look around you with a new lens, an upgraded lens, and see who you need to see with compassion and serve.

Please be sure to put Sunday, September 30 in your calendar as our special “Don't *just* go to church—*be* the church” day. Plan to get involved in some of the activities that are being planned for that day.

Upgrading Our Lenses

Sermon Series: Don't *Just* Go To Church: *Be* the Church!
Pastor Bryan Hoke, September 16, 2007

Seeing the familiar in a new light

How should God affect our lenses?

I Samuel 16:1, 6-7 (Blue Church Bible Page 202)

- The Principle: God doesn't _____ the way we _____.
- Inside vs. Outside

Where does God look? The _____

How are we to look?

- The example of Jesus
- The lens of _____ Matthew 9:35-36
(Blue Church Bible Page 687)
Matthew 14:14, Mark 6:34, Luke 7:13
- The lens begins in the _____ of a person.

How do you normally see people?

- A _____ to be _____?
- A _____ to be _____?
- A _____ of _____? = They _____

Will you see them?