

A script from



“But God Looks at the Heart”

by
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What A series of statements that describe what we as a society and often even church culture value contrasted with what God looks at—our hearts.
Themes: Appearance, Purpose, Focus, Goals, Heart

Who Actor 1
Actor 2

When Present

**Wear
(Props)** Two Black Binders (if not memorized)

Why 1 Samuel 16

How This script is performed best if memorized. If you choose not to memorize, read from the scripts placed in matching, sturdy, black folders. Readers should be very rehearsed so that their heads aren't buried ineffectively in their scripts. Consider creative blocking for more impact. You can also divide the lines up between more readers.

Time Approximately 3-5 minutes

Actor 1: "But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Don't be impressed by his appearance or his height.

Actor 2: God does not view things the way men do. People look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." (*1 Samuel 16:7 NET Bible*)

Actor 1: Mankind values power, status, and prestige.

Actor 2: But You, God, look at the inner being, the innermost part of the heart.

Actor 1: The world exalts those with influence, popularity, and personality.

Actor 2: But You, Lord, care about what the heart is chasing after.

Actor 1: Leaders and followers alike glorify achievement, effectiveness, success.

Actor 2: But You take stock of the heart.

Actor 1: We treasure the newest, the biggest, the most famous."

Actor 2: But You treasure a heart longing after Your heart.

Actor 1: Culture idolizes stature, fashion, and presentation.

Actor 2: But You see right past all that and peer deeply into the fabric of the heart.

Actor 1: Humanity esteems knowledge, scholarship, and intellect.

Actor 2: But You, God, investigate the whole of the heart.

Actor 1: Schools and workplaces applaud abilities, talents, and performance.

Actor 2: But what do You care the most about? You value what's in the heart.

Actor 1: Americans obsess over busyness, crazy schedules, and a million activities.

Actor 2: But You look for the better thing as You peacefully wait for the heart.

Actor 1: People categorize others by background, upbringing, demographics.

Actor 2: But You, Lord? You zero in on the heart.

Actor 1: Society treasures finances, 401K's, and our net worth.

Actor 2: But You are concerned with the worth of the heart.

Actor 1: Even Christians sometimes revere church attendance, volunteering, and saying the right thing.

Actor 2: But Your spirit examines the heart.

Actor 1: The American church often puts the best singers, the public prayers, and the dramatic speakers and readers on a pedestal.

Actor 2: But You, Lord, are seeking broken spirits and contrite hearts.

Actor 1: Cultural Christianity frequently prizes church programs with impressive environments, the best logos and the most resources, and the biggest crowds.

Actor 2: But You, Lord, aren't impressed with our productions. You are seeking hearts—hearts that worship You in spirit and truth.

Actor 1: Just like looking at our physical reflections in a carnival mirror, perhaps, we even look at *ourselves* through a fleshly filter of worldly values and find ourselves looking at skewed reflections.

Actor 2: But right now... in this very moment... You are looking beyond the lies we tell ourselves and seeing directly into our hearts.

Actor 1: You choose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise...

Actor 2: ...The weak things of the world to shame the strong.

Actor 1: Your ways are higher than our ways.

Actor 2: Your thoughts are higher than our thoughts.

Actor 1: Strip away all that we take pride in. We boast only in You!

Actor 2: Purify our hearts from coveting desires and sinful insecurities. We want to be content in You alone.

Actor 1: Help us celebrate what You see in us—what You are doing in us—regardless of what onlookers value.

Actor 2: Grant us a heart after Your own heart.

Actor 1: ...A heart like Yours.

Actor 2: Man looks at the outward appearance.

Actor 1: But You, oh God...You *alone*, oh God...

Actor 2: We praise You! For *You* look on the heart.

The end.

Suggested Follow-up:

A Song Committing the Heart to God:

- *"Heart of Worship" – Matt Redman*
- *"Here's My Heart (Bowed Down)" – The Longing*
- *"Here's My Heart (Speak What Is True)" – David Crowder*
- *"Lord, Keep My Heart Always True" – hymn by Howard Higashi*
- *"Be Thou My Vision" – hymn*

Prayer Time of Confession, Thanks, & Submission

Commissioning:

- *Men as they lead as men after God's own heart*
- *Parents as they disciple the heart of children and not just modify their behavior*
- *Teens as they engage with other students & a culture that cares so deeply about the outward appearance*

Sermon opener or closing

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