

Glasses

We should see others the same way that God sees them.

Prep

Get a poster board and use a black permanent marker to make something like an eye chart you'd see at an eye doctor's office. Make a top row of a few large letters, make the second row of letters a little smaller and then make the third row pretty small, but still readable for someone with good sight from a distance.

Find a student or teacher who wears glasses or contacts (the poorer their vision the better), and privately ask them if they'd be comfortable doing a sight test in front of the class first without their glasses and then with them on.

Mark your Bible to 1 Samuel 16:7.

Demonstration

Call up the student or teacher who agreed to participate.

Have them take off their glasses and then give another student the poster and hold it up at a distance. Try to have them hold it facing the class so everyone can see when the volunteer is right and wrong.

Then have the volunteer without their glasses on try to read from the poster line by line starting from the top.

After they've read all the lines on the poster have them put on their glasses and try again from the top.

Object Lesson

"Some of us have to wear glasses so that we can see things how they really are. When someone without perfect vision puts on glasses they can see clearly.

In the same way that our vision works, we as people aren't perfect; so, we often don't see many things correctly.

Instead of seeing people how we naturally see them we need to see people through God's eyes, the way he sees them.

If someone is attractive or cute we like them more, are nicer to them, or try extra hard to be their friends.

We often judge people by how they look. But the Bible clearly says that this is not how God views people.

In the book of 1 Samuel, God tells Samuel, a very important prophet—which means a man who told people God's will—to visit a certain family because a son in that family would one day be the king of their nation Israel. Samuel sees the oldest brother and instantly thinks he must be the future king, but God corrects him in 1 Samuel 16:7, saying, *“Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”*

Samuel then met 6 more brothers until God told him none of them would be king. Finally, God showed Samuel that the youngest brother, who was actually outside watching sheep, would be the king of Israel. The boy's name was David and he was a man very special to God.

You see, God didn't care about how David looked. He didn't care who was the most handsome, the biggest, oldest or the most experienced. God knew David's heart.”

Wrap Up

When we see other people, let us see them with our God glasses on so that we look at their hearts instead of judging them by what we see on the outside.