

# Greater Atlanta Adventist Educational Complex—GRAAEC) Berean Christian Junior Academy & Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy

## **The Fourth Boy--Anointed and Appointed"**

Samuel: 1 Samuel 3:8, "...Then Eli Perceived that the Lord had called the boy; David: 1 Samuel 16:12—"...And the Lord said, "Arise and anoint him, for he is the one". Genesis 37.

Once upon a time, there were three boys who were called by God and anointed in their youth. Yes, oh yes, God does anoint children these days, and blesses them abundantly, and adults too. After anointment, the boys had to wait some years before their appointments began to appear—it wasn't their season. You must have guessed who these boys were by now. Well, I'd like to tell you about the fourth boy, but not before the story ends. Don't skip now, stay with me.

Samuel heard God's voice at the tender age of seven, while still a child. Yet he had to wait years before he was appointed to be the prophet of Israel. And David, he was anointed King of Israel while he was yet a teenager, when the prophet Samuel (now grown) went to Jesse, his father's house, to seek the new King and God chose David, who was out in the fields and not even considered. He had to wait for several years for Saul to pass on to become king. Then Joseph, of course, he saw all his brothers bowing to him, got bullied, sold into slavery, served in a heathen home, was accused falsely and then jailed, all before, he became governor of Egypt. Wow!

I'd like to think that is how God works. He first anoints us to His work, and then sometimes, we've got to wait for a while, sometimes for years, before we are finally appointed first here, then there, and then elsewhere. Yet all the time, God's hand is working miraculously in our lives. By now, you've guessed who's the fourth boy.

He was nine years of age, and said to his Mom, "I feel something inside, and I am going to be in charge of something big, when I grow up". She responded, "Go outside and play". The little boy went outside and played but still the thought bothered him". Years passed—at the age of 13, he became the Sabbath School superintendent for the Children's Division at his church; at the age of 16 he was in charge of all the Master Guides (Boy Scouts) in his church. At the age of 19, he became the president of his Junior class in college, at the age of 24, the high school principal of a 600-pupil high school, at the age of 28, a college vice-president of Student Services, and at the age of 33, a college president, with two more presidents after and a membership on the General Conference Strategic Planning Committee. At each time, he said, "not me, I'm too young—I'm not mature". I was that fourth boy.

I wondered if I should have shared, lest it be thought I am "building up myself" but it's the message behind the story that matters. Might you not be that fourth boy; might not that fourth child be in your midst, in your care and keeping in your school or church? God has anointed you, and your appointment is waiting—patience yields virtue. Be stout-hearted and strong, for your season is surely coming, even though you may not recognize it. Wait for God's anointing before you rush into the appointment.

<https://youtu.be/IQ93HVuYd5Y>. Devotional Credits: courtesy of Pastor Sherwin Jack, Atlanta, Georgia