

## Trapped in Textiles: Lessons from David

Our radar can be (and often is) completely off when it comes to our assessment of other's talent, calling or worth.

1. When was the last time you were genuinely *impressed* by someone? Was it a skill or was it a characteristic?

We think we know who God does or doesn't choose to make an impact...and often we are wrong.

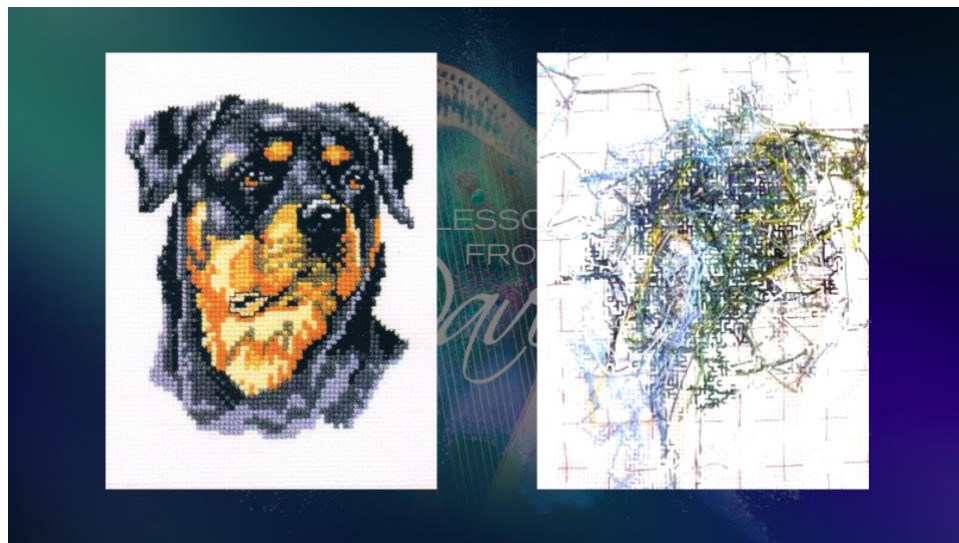
2. What are the kind of characteristics or skills that we usually associate with "those chosen" by God? How does this affect how we see ourselves, or perhaps what we prioritise in our lives?

*Read: 1 Samuel 16:6-7*

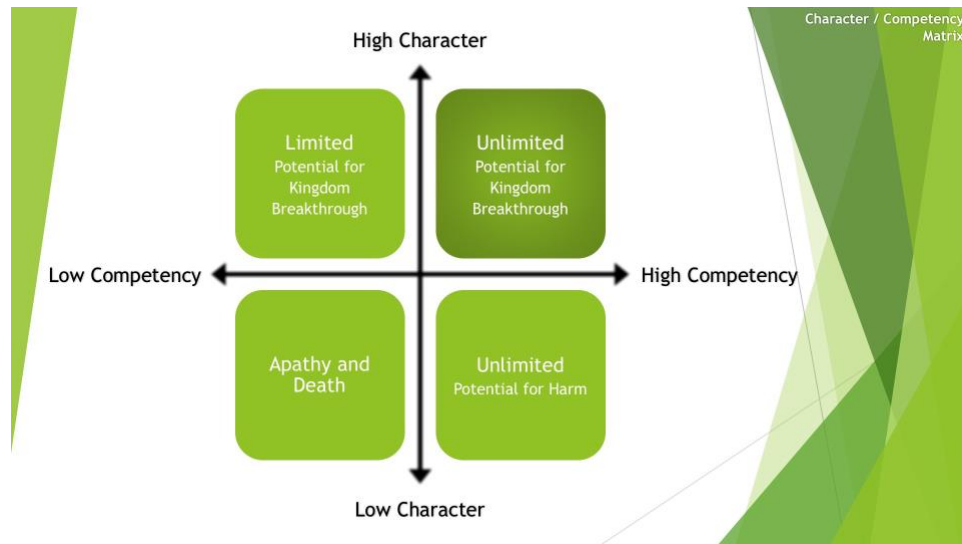
Managing behaviour is part of everybody's development from an early age – helping us to receive benefits or avoid pain – but **we must not confuse our behaviour with the state of our heart.**

### TWO IDEAS TO DISCUSS

1. A cross-stitch can look fantastic on one side and yet be a complete mess on the other, particularly when short-cuts are taken. How consistent is your front with your back?
  - What is an area of strength?
  - What is an area for God to transform?



2. Consider the following diagram:



God warns Samuel to be wary of the bottom-right quadrant. Yet if we are honest, we find ourselves drifting into non-ideal quadrants all the time.

- While we all aspire to move toward the top-right quadrant, where do you think your natural starting point would be?
- Is God challenging you in an area of character, or is it in an area of competency/skill?

**Action Step:** Remember, the goal isn't to manage our behaviour. God is wanting us to seek after him and allow our dependence on him to change us from the inside out. This begins the transformation of the heart and positions us to be used by God.

- Is there anything you need to confess to God and seek forgiveness?
- Is there an area of character or competency for which you can ask God to create opportunities in order to have that "muscle" flexed?