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| “Come & See”;  “Go & Listen”. | **1 Sam 3:1-10, (11-20)** Ps 139:1-6, 13-18  1 Corinthians 6:12-20 **John 1:43-51** |

2021 01 17 COME AND SEE – LISTEN – GO.

**NOTES ? meanderings …**

A boy born of a miracle, of his mothers pleading and God listening and granting her request and her giving the longed for son back to God. Maybe younger happening Of Sarah and Elizabeths miracle babys- a tiny shadow of our God giving up His Son for us through Marys birth of Jesus.

This boy Samuel had a childhood which taught him, both by word and example that God was real. His parents were loving to each other, to him, and trusted in God and were active in the community of their beliefs. He saw it in his parents and he accepted being placed in the temple at a young age.

His home training led him to be faithful in service in the church, even as a child he was obedient and knew that God was real. He became a powerful prophet and judge and ruled under Gods guidance. Strangely he somehow did not convey this to his two sons who subsequently lived evil lives and despite this he appointed them judges. In this he followed the example of his mentor Eli.

We must follow Gods ways in all aspects of our lives especially where our families are concerned. Our most heartfelt prayer is for our children and the children of friends, we probably all have children who do not follow closely on with the Lord despite the family following God during their childhood. The promise from God that gives us strength and courage and confidence that our children will come to faith in Jesus is “Acts 2:39 (HNV) For to ***you*** is ***the promise***, and to ***your children***, and to all who are far off, even as many as the Lord our God will call to himself."  “Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps His covenant of loving devotion **for a thousand generations of those who love Him** and keep His commandments.”[[1]](#footnote-1)

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“Train up a child in the way that he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it”[[2]](#footnote-2)

These are the verses that hold our trust that God will look after them and will work in and with them to bring them into His family – which I believe they already are but not yet revealed in them. Our faith needs to be like that expressed in Hebrews 11 where those that trusted, not always saw the outcome of gods promises but still trusted in something that they could not see or taste or feel BUT that they knew was real. This is how it is for us and our prayers for our children.

Samuel the boy was where he was supposed to be, doing what he was meant to do and the Lord God spoke to him – he responded as instructed and God spoke a message to him, which, even though he was afraid he obeyed. When the choice is between obedience to God and our emotions or logic we must follow Gods ways – if we deviate then we will begin to shrink inside in our walk of closeness with God.

**19**Now Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him, and He let none of his words [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Samuel+3%3A1-20&version=NASB#fen-NASB-7296e)]fail. **20**And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of the Lord.

The prophets such as Samuel where part of the Law period of humans knowing God, the period where we tried to “do it our way” the period that only brought slavery and dull obedience to much of the populace. Gods freedom in Jesus our Lords birth and life, death and resurrection was yet to come. Jesus walked with God with a joyful heart[[3]](#footnote-3), even in the heaviness and agonising cry when he prayed in the garden and asked God if there was another way he came back to “not my will but yours be done My Father.”[[4]](#footnote-4)

The cry of despair, of a lost soul? From the cross “My God, My God why have you forsaken me”[[5]](#footnote-5) was followed by “into your hands I commit my spirit”[[6]](#footnote-6) – still the trust, the reality of God.

He followed Gods ways because it was Gods will and it was the only way. It is critical to include Jesus life in this chronology because if he had lived in dull obedience to God or had compromised in any way then we could not be saved by his death, by his taking our sins into himself and giving us Gods rightness,[[7]](#footnote-7) making us clean in exchange, no, he Jesus would have died for his own sins and I expect that the universe would have disintegrated. Everything that exists is held up by his hand and was created for him and through him[[8]](#footnote-8). God spoke and Jesus is the “Word” he is God speaking to us.[[9]](#footnote-9)

Because we have the gift of Gods Holy Spirit in us we flow Gods love out to other people in our attitudes and actions and thoughts and being in relationship with God.

**In John 1:43-51 we have the excitement of** people meeting Jesus, of him calling them and of them recognising something in him and running to tell others. COME AND BELIEVE AND GO AND TELL OTHERS.

**43**The next day He decided to go to Galilee, and He \*found Philip. And Jesus \*said to him, “Follow Me.” **44**Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. **45**Philip \*found Nathanael and \*said to him, “We have found Him of whom Moses wrote in the Law … Philip \*said to him, “Come and see.” 

The physical outworking in our daily lives of following God is seen in 1 Corinthians 6:12-20:

**12 “**All things are permitted for me, but not all things are of benefit. All things are permitted for me, but I will not be mastered by anything. **13**Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, however God will do away with both [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians%206%3A12-20&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28468a)]of them. But the body is not for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body.”

How does this fit in “the Lord is for the body” –or maybe “the body is for the Lord” - how we live in this body that has desires which can be good and at the same time destructive:

1. What is our focus, the thoughts that come quickly to us, the hurts, rejections that rise up before we can think, what makes us laugh, cringe, want to hug someone, what are our last thoughts as we go to sleep and first as we wake … and so the list goes on.
2. Now irrespective of point one, how do we handle these thoughts, emotions, get angry with ourselves, feel its ok, make a decision to bring any that do not come from Holy Spirits Presence in us, to bring them to God and simply say “NO” to the unwanted or compulsive ones and get on with the ‘laugh’ ones.
3. What we do shows other people who we are- our actions reflect some of what is inside.
4. Our bodies may decay but God thinks them important enough to raise them made new from the dead, from the soil and ash as spiritual bodies.
5. We live in this physical body and our life is affected by its health and fitness:
6. but beyond all is that Gods Presence, Gods Holy Spirit lives in us and brings Jesus to us – this body matters:

**15 “**Do you not know that your bodies are parts of Christ the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*. **18**Flee sexual immorality. Every other sin that a person commits is outside the body, but the [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians%206%3A12-20&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28473c)]sexually immoral person sins against his own body. **19  20**For you have been bought for a price: therefore, glorify God in your body.”[[10]](#footnote-10)

Every choice we make**,** every word that comes out of our mouths, every action, emotion , thought -all reflect who we are.

“Do you not know that your body is a [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians%206%3A12-20&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28474d)]temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians%206%3A12-20&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28474e)]God, and *that* you are not your own?”[[11]](#footnote-11)

The Holy Spirit brings into us the character of Jesus, love joy peace patience kindness longsuffering not holding a grudge not complaining or gossiping and we can choose each moment of the day which ME I live in – who we are in Jesus.

Look at the freedom in these words: “All things are permitted for me, but not all things are of benefit. All things are permitted for me, but I will not be mastered by anything.”[[12]](#footnote-12)

And “God has given us all things richly to enjoy.”[[13]](#footnote-13) So relax.

The most wonderful thing is that God knows who we are to the very most intimate parts of us and still loved, still loves us enough to have sent Jesus to being us to Himself.[[14]](#footnote-14) Look at Psalm 139 does it not bring the most wonderful sense of security!

Lord, You have searched me and known *me*.  
**2**You know when I sit down and when I get up;  
You understand my thought from far away.  
**3**You scrutinize my path and my lying down,  
And are acquainted with all my ways.  
**4**Even before there is a word on my tongue,  
Behold, Lord, You know it all.  
**5**You have encircled me behind and in front,  
And placed Your hand upon me.  
**6***Such* knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
It is *too* high, I cannot comprehend it.

**7**Where can I go from Your Spirit?  
Or where can I flee from Your presence?  
**8**If I ascend to heaven, You are there;  
If I make my bed in [[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm%20139&version=NASB#fen-NASB-16248f)]Sheol, behold, You are there.  
**9***If* I take up the wings of the dawn,  
*If* I dwell in the remotest part of the sea,  
**10**Even there Your hand will lead me,  
And Your right hand will take hold of me.  
**11***If* I say, “Surely the darkness will [[g](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm%20139&version=NASB#fen-NASB-16251g)]overwhelm me,  
And the light around me will be night,”  
**12**Even darkness is not dark [[h](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm%20139&version=NASB#fen-NASB-16252h)]to You,  
And the night is as bright as the day.  
Darkness and light are alike *to You*.

**13**For You created my innermost parts;  
You wove me in my mother’s womb.  
**14**I will give thanks to You, because [[i](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm%20139&version=NASB#fen-NASB-16254i)]I am awesomely and wonderfully *made*;  
Wonderful are Your works,  
And my soul knows it very well.  
**15**My [[j](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm%20139&version=NASB#fen-NASB-16255j)]frame was not hidden from You  
When I was made in secret,  
*And* skilfully formed in the depths of the earth;  
**16**Your eyes have seen my formless substance;  
And in Your book were written  
All the days that were ordained *for me*,  
When as yet there was not one of them.

**17**How precious also are Your thoughts for me, God!  
How vast is the sum of them!  
**18**Were I to count them, they would outnumber the sand.  
When I awake, I am still with You.

”Go tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born.”

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Proverbs 22:6 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. “He was filled with the oil of gladness above his fellows” Psalm 45:7. Hebrews 1:9 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Luke 22:42. Mathew 26:39 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Matthew 27:46 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Luke 23:46 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. 2Corinthians 5:21 [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Colossians 1:16. John 1:3 [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Genesis 1. Romans 1. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. 1 Timothy 6:17 [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. John 3:16 [↑](#footnote-ref-14)