

“TAKE 10”- Worship While Away! (Sunday, January 14, 2024)

Share:

The boy Samuel heard God’s voice in the night.

We come listening for God’s voice.

The disciple Philip heard God’s voice through Christ, inviting him to follow.

We come listening for God’s voice.

God knew us before we knew ourselves.

We come listening for God’s voice.

Our minds, bodies, and souls belong to God.

We come listening for God’s voice.

We come to this place to listen and follow.

Let us worship God.

Read these words from a hymn:

God Is Calling Through the Whisper

God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit’s deepest sighs,
through the thrill of sudden beauty that can catch us by surprise.
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder:
God is calling – can you hear? God is calling – can you hear?

God is calling through the voices of our neighbors’ urgent prayers,
through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.
Place of hurt or face of needing, strident cry or silent pleading:
God is calling – can you hear? God is calling – can you hear?

God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,
through the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts.
Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing:
God is calling – and we hear! God is calling – and we hear!

Read this scripture from worship:

1 Samuel 3:1-10, *The Message*

¹⁻³ The boy Samuel was serving GOD under Eli’s direction. This was at a time when the revelation of GOD was rarely heard or seen. One night Eli was sound asleep (his eyesight was very bad—he could hardly see). It was well before dawn; the sanctuary lamp was still burning. Samuel was still in bed in the Temple of GOD, where the Chest of God rested.

⁴⁻⁵ Then GOD called out, “Samuel, Samuel!”

Samuel answered, “Yes? I’m here.” Then he ran to Eli saying, “I heard you call. Here I am.”

Eli said, “I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” And so he did.

⁶⁻⁷ GOD called again, “Samuel, Samuel!”

Samuel got up and went to Eli, “I heard you call. Here I am.”

Again Eli said, “Son, I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” (This all happened before Samuel knew GOD for himself. It was before the revelation of GOD had been given to him personally.)

⁸⁻⁹ GOD called again, “Samuel!”—the third time! Yet again Samuel got up and went to Eli, “Yes? I heard you call me. Here I am.”

That’s when it dawned on Eli that GOD was calling the boy. So Eli directed Samuel, “Go back and lie down. If the voice calls again, say, ‘Speak, GOD. I’m your servant, ready to listen.’” Samuel returned to his bed.

¹⁰ Then GOD came and stood before him exactly as before, calling out, “Samuel! Samuel!” Samuel answered, “Speak. I’m your servant, ready to listen.”

⁴³⁻⁴⁴ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. When he got there, he ran across Philip and said, "Come, follow me." (Philip's hometown was Bethsaida, the same as Andrew and Peter.)

⁴⁵⁻⁴⁶ Philip went and found Nathanael and told him, "We've found the One Moses wrote of in the Law, the One preached by the prophets. It's *Jesus*, Joseph's son, the one from Nazareth!" Nathanael said, "Nazareth? You've got to be kidding."

But Philip said, "Come, see for yourself."

⁴⁷ When Jesus saw him coming he said, "There's a real Israelite, not a false bone in his body."

⁴⁸ Nathanael said, "Where did you get that idea? You don't know me."

Jesus answered, "One day, long before Philip called you here, I saw you under the fig tree."

⁴⁹ Nathanael exclaimed, "Rabbi! You are the Son of God, the King of Israel!"

⁵⁰⁻⁵¹ Jesus said, "You've become a believer simply because I say I saw you one day sitting under the fig tree? You haven't seen anything yet! Before this is over you're going to see heaven open and God's angels descending to the Son of Man and ascending again."

Talk together:

- How are the five senses essential to our lives?
- How do hearing and seeing particularly direct our paths?
- What helps you to listen for God?
- Where, in what place, and through what person or persons do you hear the call of the Lord? Consider it each day this week.
- Who has awakened in you, a new prayer, a hope, an insight?
- Who are the people who invited you to "come and see" Jesus?
- Is there someone around you to whom you could extend that invitation today?
- How will our scripture lessons from 1 Samuel and John guide you this week?

Pray together:

You invite us, O God, to live in your ways, and you give us to each other to know and to love as we journey in this life. Show us your will for all creation. Help us to listen to your urgings with prayerful hearts so that we may honor what you have made. Open our ears, our eyes, our hearts, and our minds to your Holy Word so that it comes to rule within us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Resources Used:

Disciplines

The Message

Feasting on the Word, Worship Companion

Glory to God, The Presbyterian Hymnal