

“MARKS OF A GODLY CHRISTIAN”

Joshua 1:2 Fellowship

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1 SAM. 3:8

Samuel was a young man that was called by God to serve Him. His mother Hannah dedicated him to the Lord. Samuel was under a sinful and corrupted priesthood but was able with God's dealings in his life to maintain a pure heart. "The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions." 1 Sam. 3:1 In spite of Samuel being under a corrupt priesthood, he manages to surrender and dedicate his heart to God.

*** WHAT ARE THE MARKS OF A GODLY CHRISTIAN?**

THEY HAVE A SENSITIVE EAR TO GOD'S VOICE



Samuel did not know the voice of God in the beginning because the Word of God had not been revealed to him yet. "Then the LORD called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So, he went and lay down. Again, the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." **Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD:** The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. A third time the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. So, Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So, Samuel went and lay down in his place." 1Sam. 3:4-9 God was teaching Samuel to know His voice. It is very important for every Christian to have a 'Sensitive Ear' and understand and know God's voice. Jesus said, **"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow**

me.” John 10:27 Samuel had a sensitive ear to God’s voice. Why did God make a great effort in trying to get Samuel to know His voice? Because God already had his heart. Samuel had surrendered all his heart to God when He had called him to serve Him. Have you surrendered all your heart to God so that you can hear His voice so that you can walk with Him in a godly way and to do His will? God desires every Christian to have a ‘Sensitive Ear’ so that they can know His voice. God wants you to know his voice but you must give Him all your heart first. What is a mark of a godly person? You will know His voice and He is able to give you guidance, direction, and solutions to problems. He will speak to your heart in the middle of your storms. If God has your heart, He will teach you to have a sensitive ear like Samuel. 1Samuel 3:10 says, “The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, “Samuel! Samuel! Then Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” “Every Christian can know and hear the voice of God like Samuel if you are willing to pay the price and give all your heart to Him. The Bible reveals to us that Eli the priest is asking Samuel what God has said! Eli was not hearing from God anymore because his heart was far away from God because of his sins. 1Sam. 3:15-18 says, “Samuel lay down until morning and then opened the doors of the house of the LORD. He was afraid to tell Eli the vision, but Eli called him and said, “Samuel, my son.” Samuel answered, “Here I am.” “What was it He said to you?” Eli asked. “Do not hide it from me. May God deal with you, be it ever so severely, if you hide from me anything He told you.” So, Samuel told him everything, hiding nothing from him. Then Eli said, “He is the LORD; let him do what is good in his eyes.” The power of a godly

life is that God will train you to hear His voice. The Bible reveals that Samuel had learn to hear God’s voice. “Now the day before Saul came, **the LORD had revealed this to Samuel**: “About this time tomorrow I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin. Anoint him ruler over my people Israel; he will deliver them from the hand of the Philistines. I have looked on my people, for their cry has reached me.” When Samuel caught sight of Saul, **the LORD said to him**, “This is the man I spoke to you about; he will govern my people.” 1Sam. 9:15-17 In the beginning Samuel did not know the voice of God. “Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.” 1Sam 3:7 But the Bible shows us that Samuel learns to hear the voice of God because of his walk with Him. He had been trained in knowing His voice. “The LORD was with Samuel, **and he let none of Samuel’s words fall to the ground.**” 1Sam. 3:19 According to Scripture every Christian can be train by God to know His voice. We need to know His voice because we are living in the last days.

***WHAT ARE THE MARKS OF A GODLY CHRISTIAN?**

THEY ARE PEOPLE OF PRAYER



Samuel was a praying man. “They said to Samuel, “Do not stop crying out to the

LORD our God for us, that he may rescue us from the hand of the Philistines.” Then Samuel took a suckling lamb and sacrificed it as a whole burnt offering to the LORD. He cried out to the LORD on Israel’s behalf, and the LORD answered him.” 1Sam. 7:8-9 Samuel prayed and God answered him as He delivers Israel from their enemies. “While Samuel was sacrificing the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to engage Israel in battle. But that day the LORD thundered with loud thunder against the Philistines and threw them into such a panic that they were routed before the Israelites.” 1Sam. 7:10 Prayer warriors will be fiercely attack by satanic forces but the prayers of a godly man will move the hand of God against satan. The power of a godly life will release the power of God upon your life to give you total victory against the devil.

***WHAT ARE THE MARKS OF A GODLY CHRISTIAN?**

THEY HAVE THE POWER TO HAVE COMPASSION WHEN HURT BY OTHERS



All the people of Israel hurt Samuel deeply when they had rejected him from being their leader any longer. They wanted a king to rule over them. “So, all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. They said to him, “You are old, and your sons do not follow your ways; now

appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have.” 1Sam. 8:4-5 But Samuel was a godly man that used that hurt into an opportunity to show compassion. Samuel’s heart is broken and takes the matter to God in prayer and He reveals to him some revelation. 1Sam. 8:6-7 says, “But when they said, “Give us a king to lead us,” this displeased Samuel; so, he prayed to the LORD. And the LORD told him: “Listen to all that the people are saying to you; **it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected Me as their king.**” When you understand that when Christians hurt you or reject you, they are really hurting and rejecting the God who is in you. The godly Christian is able to forgive, love and have compassion because his heart belongs to God. The Holy Spirit tells him to forgive and have compassion because they are immature and blind to God’s voice and do not know Him. Samuel did not take revenge on the Israelites or have hatred against Saul who was going to replace him. Samuel with the compassion of God flowing from his heart anoints Saul to become the next leader of Israel when God speaks to his heart to do it. “Then Samuel took a flask of olive oil and poured it on Saul’s head and kissed him, saying, “**Has not the LORD anointed you ruler over his inheritance?...** The Spirit of the LORD will come powerfully upon you, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person.” 1Sam. 10:1, 6 In the Christian life people will hurt you but if you are a godly Christian, you will be able to turn that hurt to forgiveness and compassion. Do not allow that hurt to turn into bitterness and hatred and revenge. The power of a godly life is that as a Christian you are able to love, forgive, and show compassion when you are mistreated and hurt by others. This

is what Samuel demonstrated when he was deeply rejected by his own people. Jesus shows us this compassion and forgiveness when He was rejected and crucified on the cross. Luke 23:34 says, “Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” Samuel was able to anoint Saul as ruler over Israel because his heart belonged to God and he was sensitive to His voice to do so. When people hurt you or mistreat you, are you sensitive to hear God’s voice saying to you, “Forgive them and have compassion because they do not know my voice.” They are deaf and blind because of their carnality. Surrender your heart to God so the He may train you to know His voice.