

## DIS DIE HERE WAT PRAAT!

Het jy die Here al hoor praat?  
Dink jy Hy praat vandag nog met mense?  
Waar sal dit gebeur?  
Praat Hy dalk net met predikante en grootmense?  
Dink jy die Here sal met kinders soos jy ook praat?  
Hoe sal jy sy stem herken?

As jy nie seker is nie, wil ek jou vanmore help om antwoorde op hierdie vrae te kry.

### SKRIFLESING: 1 SAM 3:1-10

#### DIE HERE PRAAT ORAL

Samuel was weg van sy ouerhuis af (verduidelik).

**Die Here praat op enige plek met mense:** hier in die erediens, by die huis, in die hospitaal, in die natuur, in die lug, op see ... enige plek!  
‘n Mens kan sê dis soos **die radio**: Jy kan dit op enige plek aanskakel en dit sal ‘n geluid maak. Daar is egter sekere plekke waar die ontvangs baie swak is. Die Here kan egter *oral ewe duidelik* met jou praat.

#### HY PRAAT MET KINDERS OOK

Samuel was maar tussen 10 en 12 jaar oud – “*pre-tiener*”. Die mense van daardie tyd het vir baie lank nie van die Here gehoor nie en as die Here uiteindelik weer met iemand praat, kies Hy nie die ou, ervare profeet, Eli, of sy seuns nie. Hy kies om met ‘n jong seun te praat.

**Ja, die Here praat met kinders ook.**

**Jesus:** “*Laat die kindertjies na My toe kom...*” Moenie dink jy is nog **te jonk** om die Here se stem te kan hoor nie.

#### JY HOOR HOM BETER IN DIE STILTE

**Voordat Samuel die stem hoor roep het, was alles doodstil.** Die lamp het nog gebrand. Daardie lamp het snags in die tempel gebrand en is eers soggens as dit begin lig word het, doodgeblaas.

Dalk was Samuel gedurende **die dag te besig** om die Here te kan hoor praat met hom.

Het julle al gehoor ons praat van “**Stiltetyd**”? Wat is dit en waarmee is ons dan besig? (...)

Sulke tye is **belangrik** in ons almal se lewens. Ons **moet soms wegkom** van die TV en die radio en die selfoon en ander mense sodat ons mooi kan hoor wat die Here vir ons sê. Die lewe is soms so **vol geraas** dat ons

nie die Here se stem hoor nie. Daarom is die gereelde bywoning van die **erediens** ook so noodsaaklik.

#### ANDER MENSE KAN HELP OM SY STEM TE HERKEN

**Samuel het eers gedink dit is Eli wat hom roep.** Dit was ook eers teen die *derde keer* dat Eli besef het dat dit dalk die Here is wat vir Samuel roep en dat dit nie maar ‘n droom is of iets is wat hy hom verbeel nie. Samuel was seker *verbaas* dat God hom **op sy naam** geroep het. Ons het gelees dat Samuel op daardie stadium *nog nie die Here geken* het nie, maar die Here het vir hom **OP SY NAAM** geken! (vergelyk **doop**; Jes 43:1)

**Gelukkig kon Eli hom reghelp om te weet dis die Here wat praat.**

Die Here gee **vir ons ook** mense om ons te help om te weet wanneer Hy met ons praat en om sy woorde *te verstaan*. Daar is bv ons ouers/ oupa en ouma, meneer/juffrou by die skool of kategeese, die dominee, ‘n afrigter, vriende.

Soms praat ons van so iemand as ‘n **mentor**. ‘n Mentor is iemand wat ons *karakter* help vorm. **Dit gebeur soms onbewustelik.**

Ek het iewers op hierdie treffende vers afgekom:

#### **“When You Thought I Wasn’t Looking”**

*When you thought I wasn’t looking, I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator, and I wanted to paint another one.*

*When you thought I wasn’t looking, I saw you feed a stray cat, and I thought it was good to be kind to animals.*

*When you thought I wasn’t looking, I saw you make my favorite cake just for me,*

*and I knew that little things are special things.*

*When you thought I wasn’t looking, I heard you say a prayer, and I believed there is a God I could always talk to.*

*When you thought I wasn’t looking, I felt you kiss me goodnight, and I felt loved.*

*When you thought I wasn’t looking, I saw tears come from your eyes, and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it’s all right to cry.*

*When you thought I wasn’t looking, I saw that you cared, and I wanted to be everything that I could be.*

*When you thought I wasn’t looking, I looked . . . and I wanted to say thanks for all the things I saw when you thought I wasn’t looking.*

#### GOD PRAAT OP VERSKILLENDE MANIERE

Samuel het ‘n **duidelike stem** met hom hoor praat. Dit gebeur nie baie nie, maar dit wil **nie sê** dat die Here vandag **NIE MEER** met mense praat

nie. Inteendeel, ek dink dat omdat ons vandag die **Bybel** het, gebeur dit *baie meer*. Ons **noem mos** die Bybel die Woord van ...? GOD Hy praat met ons daar waar die Bybel met aandag *gelees en bestudeer* word en waar daaruit *gepreek* word. Agter 'n **predikant** se naam staan daar soms die letters VDM. Dit is Latyn wat beteken hy/sy is 'n *bedienaar van die Goddelike Woord*.

As ons **bid en verwag** om die Here met ons te hoor praat wanneer ons die Bybel lees en die erediens besoek, dan sal dit ook gebeur. Toe jy vanoggend hierheen gekom het ...?

Hy **kan ook deur die liedere** wat ons hier sing met ons praat, of deur gospel liedere, of boeke, of die natuur (Johan Bindeman).

### HOOR EN GEHOORSAAM SY STEM

**Wat het Samuel gedoen nadat Eli vir hom raad gegee het?** Hy het vir die Here **geantwoord**: "*Praat... luister*" (:10)

En **nadat** hy die boodskap van die Here ontvang het, het hy dit netso aan Eli oorgedra. Dit was nie goeie nuus nie en dit was sekerlik nie vir hom maklik en aangenaam om die opdrag van die Here uit te voer nie, maar hy was **getrou**. Samuel het die stem van die Here **gehoor en gehoorsaam** en het 'n belangrike leier vir die volk geword. **Goeie leiers soek en volg die Here se leiding.**

**Die Here sê in Open 3:20:** (lees). Dit is die Here wat hier met jou praat vanmore. Hy praat deur die Bybel (die Woord van God) en Hy praat deur die dominee (VDM). **Elkeen wat hier sit vandag hoor Sy stem, ewe duidelik** as Samuel daardie nag in die tempel.

Gaan jy Hom laat **buite staan**?

**Maak oop** die deur dat Hy kan inkom – Hy wil saam met ons kom bruilof hou! (Laas Sondag: Lewe en dit in oorvloed!)

En al het jy Hom al ingenooi, wil Hy ook **nog verder met jou praat** oor sy **liefde** vir jou en vir die wêreld; oor Sy **plan** vir jou toekoms; oor hoedat Hy jou wil **gebruik en help**, as jy maar net wil *saamwerk, hoor en gehoorsaam*.

**Sal jy luister en doen wat God van jou vra?** Dit mag iets eenvoudigs wees soos om 'n **maat te help** voorberei vir 'n toets. Of dit kan iets moeiliker wees, soos om **vriende te maak** met iemand met wie ander die spot dryf. Of dalk vra God van jou om elke dag vir 'n spesifieke persoon **te bid**. Of om **te getuig** teenoor 'n ongelowige.

**Ja, die Here praat nie net met kinders ook nie, Hy gebruik hulle ook!**

So is daar die verhaal van **Angela** en hoedat die Here haar gebruik het om 'n hele kerk te verander:

Melba Community Baptist Church is located in Melba, Idaho. In 1977, interest in the church had dropped off. Some hurts and misunderstandings had made their marks,

splitting up the congregation; and now the membership had dwindled to about 12 people on the verge of giving up. In fact, on this particular Sunday the membership was voting if they should indeed close the doors of the church.

Their meeting was interrupted when a seven-year-old child named Angela walked through the doors and asked, "Where is the Sunday school, please?" Apparently she had attended some activity at the church the week before, and she'd decided to find out what Sunday Services were all about. Even more amazing was that her parents, who did not go to church, agreed to drop her off.

Needless to say, the people of the church were stunned. And then the lay pastor--for they couldn't afford to hire a full-time pastor--discontinued the meeting and held Sunday School. And then, because Angela appeared to be staying, he held a church service too.

Angela returned the next Sunday, and the next and the next. For two and a half years, Angela came faithfully to church. She came alone, and unlike the scattering of people who kept to the back pews, Angela sat down in front.

Whenever the question arose about closing the church--and it did from time to time--another would follow: "But where would Angie go?"

This little girl became the reason for the Melba Baptist Church to struggle on, to plan a message, to somehow nurture a young spirit from one Sunday to the next.

The other spirits there were much older, and getting more so by the year. Angela was their glimmer of hope; she was their future.

"Who are her parents?" the lay pastor asked.

"Dairy people. Wealthy people. They got a couple thousand acres, a couple thousand cows. Big people in the Farm Bureau. Serious business folks." But it was obvious they were too busy to come to church. Not once had they come in the last two and a half years with Angie.

And they were too busy for church. In fact, Jerry, Angie's father, had made it clear to his wife Mary Lou that he had no use for church or for people who hung around in sanctuaries and sang those sad songs. But then, much to the amazement of the tiny congregation, Angie's family began to attend with her. At age 10, Angie had invited them to come.

Jerry says, "I wasn't the least bit interested in sermons or in God. I went that first Sunday only because my little girl asked me to go. But the songs weren't as sad as Jerry had imagined. And he hadn't counted on the lay pastor being such a warm, friendly pastor, even intelligent. And Jerry began to feel different inside. The emptiness he'd felt for years--the emptiness that couldn't be satisfied by owning all those cows and acres and equipment, nor by holding all those important positions in the agricultural organizations--seemed less empty."

And when the pastor preached a sermon "Why I am a Christian," Jerry, who had never heard of going to the front of the church and giving yourself to Christ, did just that. Tough, macho Jerry knelt at the front and wept. And gradually, in the Sundays that followed, Angie's entire family accepted Christ.

Angie changed that church. It began to grow again until eventually it could hire a full-time minister and renovate and expand its building. As far as the Melba Baptist Church is concerned, the little girl who came alone to church that Sunday long ago, was sent by God. She called them back to hope. She called them back to faithfulness. After all, that's what her name, Angela, means: ANGEL. A messenger from God.

**Blackaby:** *“Wanneer ons sy roepstem hoor en toepaslik optree, is daar geen perk aan wat God deur sy kinders kan en sal doen nie. Maar as ons nie eers agterkom wanneer Hy praat nie, is daar ‘n baie groot probleem in ons verhouding met Hom.”*  
Lees aanhaling p 13 en 14.....Uitnodiging na Bybelstudie.  
Amen.