

## Weekly Word – Rev. Bruce Noseworthy

January 14, 2024

The Scripture reading for this week are: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20); Psalm 139:1-6,13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

There is a lot in these Scriptures that can be said, but I want to comment on God's call to each one of us in light of the readings

In 1 Samuel 3:8-10 we read about God calling to Samuel in the night, "The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Also, we read about Jesus' interaction with Philip and Nathanael in John 1:43-51, with Nathanael responding in verse 49, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

So, Samuel and Nathanael were called into relationship with God. Let us look at what Psalm 139 says, "O LORD, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! I try to count them -- they are more than the sand; I come to the end -- I am still with you.

God knew Samuel and Nathanael. He knew EVERYTHING about them, He knew them better than they knew themselves, yet God still wanted an intimate relationship with them, not so that He would know them better, BUT that they would know God better. These two people are examples of what God longs for, with each one of us. He wants us to come to know Him better. To become more acquainted with His nature and His will for our lives and out of that relationship will flow Blessings for us. We can do that through accepting Jesus into our lives and He will help us to live our lives so that we are available for God's Blessing. Jesus said in John 10:10, "...I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." My hope and prayer for each one of us, is that we may find the Peace that passes all understanding and the abundant life offered by God through Jesus.