



Sunday, 24 January 2021

What Was Heard

Seen....

And

Touched

[Great Is Thy Faithfulness | Austin Stone Worship | Live from TGC](#)

[Great Are You Lord - Casting Crowns - with Lyrics](#)

[Shout To The Lord \(Lyrics\)](#)

1 John 1:1-4

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life— 2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us— 3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

There is something wonderful in the account of John when he looked in the face of Jesus that he saw beyond the natural and his vision was transported to Genesis as he touches the One who was with the Father and is now present there with him . The long awaited Messiah is now there in front of him.

Pause and reflect

He also described that in John 1:1-4

John 1 :1-4 The Eternal Word

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

Over many centuries the Jewish people had believed that a Messiah would come because they had heard about him in the Torah and the Prophetic writings. They searched the scriptures concerning the Messiah and yet, when Jesus appeared, many did not recognise him. But John and the other disciples had a revelation of who He was because, not only did they hear his teachings, they also saw how he lived them out with signs and wonders which only God could do and were able to have such a close relationship with him that others were able to tell that their lives were so changed that people recognised that ‘they had been with Jesus’.

Pause and reflect - So how does that affect us today?

When we read the Scriptures do we simply read the words on the page or do we expect, like John, to look with vision to the Father, to the eternal and find Life or are we content just to look on the surface. The Jewish Scribes and Pharisees were scholars and yet they missed it - John 5:39

You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life— and those Scriptures are the ones testifying about Me!

When Jesus heard and read for himself the Scriptures he saw how his life story was prophesied from the location of his birth, to his parentage, even to a

detail such as riding on a donkey with a colt when he entered Jerusalem, how he would die for the sins of all people and many, many more. The incident in the synagogue is an amazing example of Jesus, the Word made flesh, holding the scroll in his hands and reading from the Word of God in Isaiah and declaring that the Word was fulfilled in their hearing. They were hearing, seeing and even touching the Word of God and were amazed at his marvellous words. **16** He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, **17** and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

18

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,

19

to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

20 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. **21** He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

[Pause here and reflect on the Word \(Jesus\) reading out and fulfilling the Word](#)

If we spend time with the Word, others will know we have been with Jesus. John spoke about our being in fellowship with the Father and his Son Jesus and thus in fellowship with others who are also in that fellowship. That’s what unites us - spiritual fellowship with the Father and the Son and one another. John also went on to say that the reason for this is that our joy may be full! Fullness of joy is what flows from our relationship with the Father and Son and each other.

How can we as a fellowship of believers be the embodiment of Jesus - a tangible expression of Jesus to our neighbours, work colleagues, family, friends? And even in our own homes?

Pause here and reflect and there will be an opportunity at the Zoom time to share.

Father, we thank You that in our everyday life we can be an expression of Jesus. By Your Spirit You help us be fully ourselves and reach out in loving ways to others that they might come to know You and the joy You bring.

[What A Beautiful Name - Hillsong Worship](#)

The 2 pages that follow are for 'afters' !

Just for fun

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xq7N1ksKqSxMY6U_6I3vVNOP2OQuJ-E7/view?usp=sharing

Heard, Seen and Touched Games for the kids of any age.

Heard : Animals and Birds Sounds - Adult plays the video on laptop stopping after each sound. The children cannot see the pictures, only hear the sounds. The children can either play individually or in pairs. After each sound is played either the children shout out the answer or they write it down ... whichever is most easily managed, conscious of the difference in age!

<https://youtu.be/gvJM1Gjl-ek>

Seen :

Print off the jpg on the page below and have the children find the hidden objects

Touched : Several items are gathered and placed in a large bin liner or pillow case held by an adult.

Beginning with the youngest person, they have a timed minute to feel all the items, then they whisper in an adult's ear what items they recognise and the adult records it on a separate sheet of paper.

There is a slightly more fancy version described in the link below using a box, but that is not essential ... it's the fact that we can recognise it by touch without seeing, that's important.

<https://handsonaswegrow.com/sensory-box-guessing-game/>

