

35) The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as He walked by and said, “Behold the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to Him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So, they came and saw where He was staying, and they stayed with Him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.

(40) One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter). *[Peter is Greek, Cephas is Aramaic; both mean rock.]*

(43) The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow Me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found Him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote --- Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”

(47) Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him and said to him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael said to Him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael answered Him, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” And He said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

Think on these things:

- 1) From v.38, what does the Hebrew term “Rabbi” mean? Generally, “zero hour” = 6 a.m., the approximate time of sunrise in Hebrew thinking. If the two disciples joined Jesus where He was staying at the “10th” hour (v.39), what time of day would that be?

Rabbi = **Teacher**

10th Hour = **4 p.m. (in the afternoon)**

- 2) V.41 gives us two names for “God’s Anointed.” One is Hebrew, and the other Greek

Hebrew = **Messiah**

Greek = **Christ**

- 3) After taking up with Jesus, what did Andrew (v.41) and Philip (v.45) quickly do? Have you ever done something like this?

They both found someone close to them --- Andrew found his brother, Peter, and Philip found his good friend, Nathanael --- and invited them to come and “meet” Jesus. They wanted to share their own wonderful discovery with people they cared for. The rest is a personal answer.

- 4) What do these passages have to say about our need to follow Andrew & Philip’s examples?

Matthew 28:18-20? **The “commission” for Christians is to go throughout the world sharing the Gospel. People who come to faith and accept Jesus must learn to obey Him and be baptized as His followers. Existing Christians must then disciple (mentor and guide) them.**

2 Corinthians 5:17-20? **By believing in Jesus and receiving forgiveness, believers are “born again” as new creations and reconciled to God. All of us are obligated to share this wonderful experience of reconciliation in ministry to others, representing Jesus as His “ambassador.”**

Proverbs 24:11-12? **We are to intervene in the “normal” lives of others headed down the pathway to eternal death, and endeavor to show them God’s salvation path. God will hold us accountable with a heart judgment if we say “we didn’t know” that would be their end....**

- 5) A common phrase in today’s passage when people raise questions about Jesus is, “Come and see” (vs. 39, 46). What do you think that those of us who might do the inviting can infer from this? Consider John 4:42.

By inviting others to “come and see,” we are asking people to let Jesus speak to them directly. We want them to explore Jesus and His claims for themselves and make up their own minds. In John, the villagers told the ‘woman at the well’ that they now believed in Jesus for themselves because of their own personal encounters with Him, not just ‘her’ testimony.

- 6) Why was Nathanael skeptical about Jesus (v.46)? *[While this is a local jesting remark, in reality how and where Jesus came from was a major problem for Jewish leaders when they rejected Him --- Messiah was expected to be a conquering Savior, overcoming the Romans, and restoring glory to God’s people and the Jewish nation.]* How did Jesus overcome Nathanael’s skepticism?

Jesus came from a “no place” town, a small backwater village of no consequence. How could anybody important come from a nowhere place? --- Jesus informed Nathanael that before he showed up, Jesus had seen him under a specific tree where he thought he was totally alone. If Jesus knew this about him, He must have supernatural powers and abilities!

- 7) What title did Jesus use for Himself in v.51? *[This title was first introduced in Daniel 7:13-14, where One goes before the ‘Ancient of Days’ and is given dominion over our earthly world and everything in it.]* What do these other passages tell us about the purpose of Jesus’ humanity?

Title – **Jesus called Himself the “Son of Man”**

1 Timothy 2:5-6 – **Between our one God and all of mankind, there is ‘one mediator’ --- the man Christ Jesus. He gave Himself as a ransom for everyone at the proper time. Mediator means He works things out between two parties at odds with each other, in this case God and people.**

Hebrews 2:14-18 – **Since God’s children are human, Jesus took upon Himself humanity so that He could destroy the power & fear of death. He understands how hard life in the flesh is, so that now He can serve God on our behalf as a merciful and faithful High Priest. From His own experiences, He is able to help everyone being tempted.**

People and situations I want to pray for this week: