

Light & Life - The Book Of John
“From Cynicism to Faith” John 1:35-51
Cornerstone Church Of Poway
Rich Sherwood
June 25, 2023

³⁵The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, “Look, the Lamb of God!”

³⁷When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. ³⁸Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?”

They said, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?”

³⁹“Come,” he replied, “and you will see.”

So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

⁴⁰Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. ⁴¹The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ). ⁴²And he brought him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas” (which, when translated, is Peter).

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, “Follow me.”

⁴⁴Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

⁴⁶“Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked.

“Come and see,” said Philip.

⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.”

⁴⁸“How do you know me?” Nathanael asked.

Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.”

⁴⁹Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.”

⁵⁰Jesus said, “You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.” ⁵¹He then added, “Very truly I tell you, you will see ‘heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on’ the Son of Man.”

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Family Corner: [Choose one day this week to ask questions to go deeper in faith as a family. Use the “*” questions to keep it under 12 minutes.]

Open in Prayer.

❖ **Read Matthew 3:1-6**

Here we have a description of what John the Baptist was like. During this time, disciples were expected to live as their rabbi. What do you think would cause someone to want to be his disciple?

What was it about his message that brought so many people out to the “wilderness” in order to be baptized and learn from him?

In John 1:36 Nathaniel says “Nazareth, can anything good come from there?” Here Nathaniel is showing his bias. Do you know of any biases in your life that keep you from trusting others?

It’s easy to become cynical in the culture that we live in. Do you have any scripture verses that help you with trusting God and brothers and sisters in Christ?

Even though Nathaniel had his obvious bias, why do you think he went when Philip invited him to come and see?

What was it about their relationship to help Nathaniel move beyond his preconceived ideas?

In this week's passage, John 1:35-51, people come to follow Jesus because of the witness of John the Baptist, Andrew and Philip. It would seem that these men were trusted by those around them. Do you see yourself as the kind of person who is trusted enough that people would be willing to give Jesus a chance based on your witness. Why or why not?

John 1:50 says “you believe because I said I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.”

Have you settled for less than what God wants for you?

Is God calling you to follow him closer than you are now?

Close in prayer.



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