

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

Current Book: John – verse by verse

Scriptures for Today: John 1:35-51 – the extraordinary nature of our Lord’s personal invitation.

Today’s Message:

“A Personal Invitation”



INTRODUCTION

Last week, John the Baptist declared one of the most important messages of His life. He gave testimony and said that Jesus Christ is *the Lamb of God* and *the Son of God* – God the Son. Today, we will consider the extraordinary nature of our Lord’s invitation to **FOLLOW** Him. We will see two disciples of John the Baptist see and hear him point to Jesus Christ and say, “Behold the Lamb of God!” What do you do when you find out that the Lord of the universe is **WALKING** on planet earth? The only reasonable thing to do is to follow Him! We will watch the disciples **FIND** people they care about and bring them to Jesus. We will be challenged to follow their example for God’s glory! This is God’s message to you...

LEARNING TOGETHER

A. The Text John 1:35-51

#1. The Opportunity – Jesus told those interested in Him, “**COME and see.**”

AND THE TWO DISCIPLES HEARD HIM SPEAK, AND **THEY FOLLOWED JESUS**

✓ The identity of one of disciples is **Andrew**; it is likely **JOHN** *the beloved* is the other.

- **1:35** – “Again the next day after John stood, and **TWO OF HIS DISCIPLES.**”
- **1:36** – “And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, **Behold the Lamb of God!**”
- **1:37** – “And the two disciples heard him speak, and **THEY FOLLOWED JESUS.**”

Important Note

John the Baptist had other disciples; these obviously trusted him.

THEN JESUS TURNED, AND SAW THEM FOLLOWING... SAITH... **WHAT SEEK YE?**

✓ At first, they were following out of curiosity; Jesus asked what they were **SEEKING**.

- **Deut 4:29** – “But if... **thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, IF thou...**”
- **1Chr 22:19** – “Now **SET** your heart and your soul **to seek the LORD your God...**”
- **2Chr 12:14** – “And he did **EVIL, because he prepared not his heart to seek the LORD.**”
- **2Chr 34:3**– “For in the eighth year... **he began to seek after the God of David...**”
- **Isa 55:6** – “**Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near**”
- **Mt 6:33** – “**But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness...**”

Important Questions

What is your #1 priority?
Why do you follow Jesus?
What are you looking for?

HE SAITH UNTO THEM, **COME AND SEE.**

COME AND SEE!

Jesus Christ turned around and saw Andrew and John following him. He first asked, “What seek ye?” Then after they asked about where He dwelt, Jesus said, “Come and see.” They stayed with Him ALL DAY! Jesus Christ gives all people an opportunity to come and check Him out! Read of Him. Learn of Him. Listen to Him. Follow Him.

#2. The Mission – Andrew first found his brother and BROUGHT him to Jesus.

HE FIRST FINDETH HIS OWN BROTHER SIMON

✓ Silence is SIN.

- **Rom 1:14-15** – “I am debtor both to the Greeks... I am ready to preach the gospel...”
- **Jas 4:17** – “Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.”
- **1John 3:17** – “But whoso hath this world’s good... shut up his bowels of compassion...”
- **2Kin 7:1-9** – “We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace”

✓ Away with EXCUSES.

- Is it really my RESPONSIBILITY? Read **Mt 28:18-20** and **Mk 16:15** – Yes, it is!
- People will not LISTEN. Read **Acts 4:20** – many will listen! We must speak!
- I am not ABLE. Read **2Cor 12:9-10** – we are weak, but He is strong!

AND HE BROUGHT HIM TO JESUS.

✓ We simply MUST obey our Lord Jesus Christ and bring all we can to Him!

- In **John 1:41-42**, Andrew spoke of Christ, then brought Him to see for himself!
- In **John 4:4-42**, Jesus Christ went out of His way to care for someone in need!
- In **Mark 2:1-5**, a group of 4 brought their FRIEND to Jesus through the roof!

#3. The Invitation – Jesus found Philip Himself and said, “FOLLOW me.”

THE DAY FOLLOWING JESUS WOULD GO FORTH... AND FINDETH PHILIP

✓ Jesus Christ calls people to a PERSONAL relationship; to forsake all, FOLLOW Him.

- **Mt 4:19** – “And he saith unto them, FOLLOW ME, and I will make you fishers of men.”
- **Mt 9:9; Mk 2:14; Lk 5:27** – “Matthew... FOLLOW ME. And he arose, and followed him.”
- **Mt 16:24; Mk 8:34; Lk 9:23** – “Then said Jesus... disciples, If any man... FOLLOW ME.”
- **Mt 19:21; Mk 10:21; Lk 18:22** – “Jesus said unto him... go sell... come and FOLLOW ME.”
- **John 10:27** – “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they FOLLOW ME:”
- **John 21:19-22** – “... he saith unto him (Peter), FOLLOW ME... FOLLOW THOU ME.”

PHILIP FINDETH NATHANIEL... JESUS SAW NATHANIEL COMING TO HIM

✓ Nathaniel overcame personal pride and prejudice; He CHOSE to follow Christ!

- In **John 1:45**, Philip found Nathaniel and brought him to meet Jesus Christ.
- In **John 1:46**, Nathaniel had to overcome his flesh; Philip said, “Come and see.”
- In **John 1:47**, Jesus saw Nathaniel coming and initiated the personal connection.
- In **John 1:48**, Jesus shocked Nathaniel with personal details only God KNOWS!
- In **John 1:49**, Nathaniel declares that Jesus is the Son of God and King of Israel!

THOU SHALT SEE GREATER THINGS THAN THESE!

Nathaniel was blown away by Jesus Christ – in a good way! Jesus Christ called him to a personal walk with Him. The first step of faith is to BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. After that, He will show you glorious and wondrous things through the word of God and His people! Jesus ends with a connection to JACOB’S LADDER! (**Gen 28:12**)