

## LESSONS FROM NATHANIEL - JOHN WATT

### EXTRAORDINOBODIES

Focusing on Nathanael (also known as Bartholomew)

Nathanael was one of Jesus' twelve disciples, one of the chosen ones who turned the world upside down, yet there is no book written about him and in fact he is hardly mentioned in the Bible.

*John 1:47-50 :*

*"When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, He said of him, 'Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false.'*

*'How do you know me?' Nathanael asked.*

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

*Then Nathanael declared, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel.'*

*Jesus said, 'You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You shall see greater things than that.'"*

(Here Jesus was prophesying about Nathanael being a disciple and what he would see as he walked with Jesus)

Sitting under the fig tree in those days was a sign or a symbol of a Jewish Rabbi studying, an authentic Israelite. Nathanael was full of knowledge but he had not met Jesus yet. Head knowledge can be a barrier to seeking and knowing God truly and having a relationship with Jesus.

Secondly, when Jesus said, "I saw you under the fig tree" it tells us that Jesus noticed him and saw value in him. Jesus knew him before Nathanael knew Jesus. How often

do we forget that Jesus knows us intimately and He knew Nathanael before Nathanael had even met Him.

So my question is – do we notice people?

The ones that other people miss. The person sitting alone outside church or in our office. Do we notice those people who could be classed as nobodies? Do we make an effort to get to know these “nobodies”? Are we afraid to approach educated people because we think we are a “nobody”?

There is a saying that “Nobody is perfect.” Well if we are nobodies then we are perfect for God to use!

Have a blessed day!