



FUSION

CHURCH OF MADISON

Sermon Guide for Tribes

January 28, 2024

Sermon Series: The Life of a Jesus Follower
Sermon Title: The Connecting Life
Scripture: John 1:35-51

35 The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, 36 and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, (A)the Lamb of God!” 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. 38 Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, (B)“What are you seeking?” And they said to him, (C)“Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” 39 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.[a] 40 (D)One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus[b] was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found (E)the Messiah” (which means Christ). 42 He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of (F)John. You shall be called (G)Cephas” (which means (H)Peter[c]).

43 (I)The next day Jesus decided (J)to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” 44 Now (K)Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip found (L)Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom (M)Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus (N)of Nazareth, (O)the son of Joseph.” 46 Nathanael said to him, (P)“Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” 47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, “Behold, (Q)an Israelite indeed, (R)in whom there is no deceit!” 48 Nathanael said to him, “How (S)do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” 49 Nathanael answered him, (T)“Rabbi, (U)you are the Son of God! You are the (V)King of Israel!” 50 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.” 51 And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you,[d] you will see (W)heaven opened, and (X)the angels of God ascending and descending on (Y)the Son of Man.”

Points of Consideration:

Jesus Invites Others to Connect (vs. 35-42)

Jesus Transforms through Connecting (vs. 43-46)

Jesus Creates Community through Connecting (vs. 43-49)

Jesus Imparts Vision through Connecting (vs. 49-51)

Discussion Questions:

Jesus extends invitations to several individuals in this passage, each resulting in a transformative encounter. How does Jesus' invitation to "come and see" resonate with you personally? What barriers or doubts might prevent people from accepting this invitation today, and how can we help others overcome them to experience the transformative power of connecting with Jesus?

As each person encounters Jesus in this passage, they are fundamentally changed. From Andrew and Peter leaving their former lives to follow him, to Nathanael's declaration of faith, how do these encounters reflect the transformative nature of connecting with Jesus? How have your own encounters with Jesus led to personal transformation or growth?

Throughout these encounters, we see a sense of community forming among Jesus and his disciples. How does the community aspect of following Jesus contribute to the transformative experience? How can we foster a sense of community and support among believers today to help others experience the life-changing power of connecting with Jesus?