

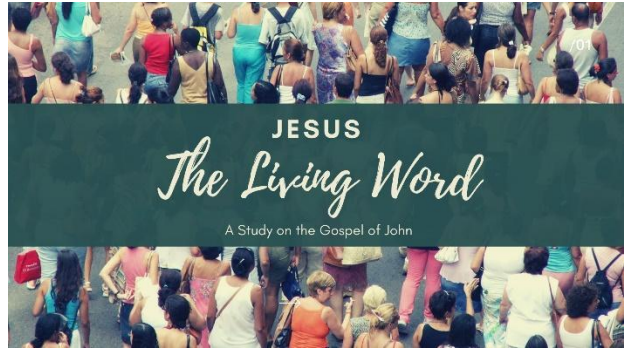
Study: "Jesus the Living Word"

A Study on the Gospel of John

Instructor: Pastor Damian Mericka

Week 6: Gospel of John 1:35-51

Study Notes Jesus- *the Word of God*



John 1:35-39. Come and See.

- o After John the Baptist baptizes Jesus, there is no doubt that the one John was preparing everyone for has arrived. Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! As the Spirit descended as a dove upon Jesus, John affirms Him as indeed Israel's long awaited Chosen One.
- o (Vv.35-37) John the Baptist represented the shadow of what the Old Testament was slowly being swallowed up in the new Day of the Lord. As John decreases, Jesus increases. He affirms again direction for those following him to look upon Jesus as the one. They in turn leave John to follow Jesus.
- o (Vv.38-39) John the author introduces us to a pattern of discipleship that remains throughout his Gospel. People would *come and see* Jesus and either *remain* or *depart*.

John 1:40-44. See and Receive.

- o (Vv.40-41) Of the two who left John was Andrew who went to tell his brother Peter about Jesus. The Jordan Baptisms would have stirred conversations all over about a coming Messiah, so Andrew's affirmation would connect the dots for Peter that Jesus is what all of this is about.
- o (v.42) Andrew leads Peter to Jesus who does the following:
 - Affirms who he *was*, Simon, son of John.
 - Affirms who he *is*, Peter. This has incredible implication for him and us today. Jesus sees the full work complete that He does in us through His Spirit (declaration of Peter / Cephas / Rock) even though our lives are a process of growing into this. In the Gospels Peter was often known for his failings, yet in Acts onward for his courage and faith.
- o (v.43-44) Going further into Galilee Jesus sees and calls Philip to join Him. From Bethsaida, house of fishing, Jesus is going to transform these disciples to become fishers of men. Philip is unique out of those Jesus would call, for he has a Greek name. This helps us see how rooted and interwoven Gentile and Hebrew cultures were in Galilee. Later, in John's narrative we will find Greeks who are interested in Jesus, and come to Philip for the connection (See John 12:20-22)

John 1:45-51. A New Bethel Has Come.

- o (Vv.45-46) Philip invites Nathaniel to come to Jesus, affirming Him as what Moses (Law) and the Prophets are about. *The Law and the Prophets composed the Old Testament Scriptures that would have been read weekly in their Synagogues.* Nathaniel shows in response that there is no significance noted in Scripture for Nazareth. Again, come and see, is the response Philip gives. Let Jesus *be* Jesus.
- o (Vv.47-51). Jesus shows in this meeting with Nathaniel how things are changing.
 - The character of the Kingdom of God. Israel (Jacob) was a deceiver, contrasted with Nathaniel who exercised integrity.
 - The presence of the Kingdom of God. As Jacob witnessed a bridge between heaven and earth (**Bethel / Genesis 28:18-19**), Jesus would be the bridge bringing Heaven to earth beyond the geography of Bethel. Jesus is the Living Word, the means for all that is of the Father to come to us as well as bringing us into the Father. Jesus is Himself the new *Bethel, House of God*. After Resurrection, Ascension, and Spirit Baptism, so will he (and us today)!

"These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." -John 20:31 ESV

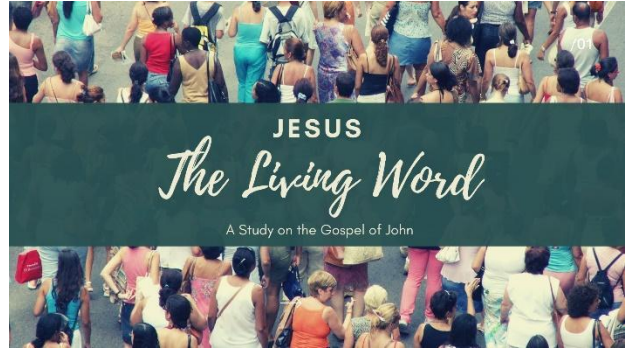
Cornerstone Bible Study Series

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Deeper Questions for Application

- 1) *What does John the Baptist represent in John's Gospel? How does his decrease and Jesus' increase symbolize?*
- 2) *Explain how many became disciples of Jesus in the verses we went over today. Name those mentioned and how they came to Jesus. How did you come to Jesus?*
- 3) *Why did Philip refer to Jesus as the one Moses and the Prophets wrote about? How does this connect to Synagogue life for Jewish people?*
- 4) *What two things does Jesus note that will change for Israel when comparing Jacob and Nathaniel? What is significant of Jesus being the new Bethel for you and me today?*
- 5) **BONUS:**
 - a. *Looking at Nathaniel's response, "Can anything good come from Nazareth", how do we respond to those who say:*
 - i. *Can anything good come out of Christianity?*
 - ii. *Can anything good come out of Church?*

*Type your answers and send them to me at damianmericka@live.com or attach through facebook messenger. ***For Next Time read John Chapter 2 (full chapter).**