

**The Twelve: Walk a Mile in their Shoes**  
**Nathanael: A True and Faithful Heart**  
**John 1: 43-51**

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit.”* **Matthew 28:19:**

*“The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Phillip and said to him, “Follow me”. Now Phillip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Phillip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Phillip said to Him, “Come and see.”. Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him and said of him, “Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael said to Him “ How do you know me? Jesus answered him “Before Phillip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael answered Him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” 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.” And He said to him, “ Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened. And the angels of God ascending and descending on the son of Man.”.***John 1:43-51**

**Nathanael’s Background:**

- from Cana in Galilee
- probably a fisherman
- witnessed Jesus’ Ascension
- name means “God has given”
- carried Gospel as far as Armenia and was martyred for his faith

**Main Idea:** God calls us to Himself, and this evokes a response.

**Three Elements of Nathanael’s Calling;**

- **Nathanael was recognized by Jesus**
- **Nathanael responded to Jesus**
- **Nathanael remained with Jesus**

**I. Recognition:** *Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him “Behold an Israelite, indeed, in whom there is no deceit ” Nathanael said to him “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him “Before Phillip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.”* **John 1:47-48**

*“For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart ”.* **1 Samuel 16:7**

*“And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him whom we must give account .”* **Hebrews 4:13**

*“O lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. ”* **Psalms 139: 1-2**

**II. Response:** *“Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”*” **John 1:49**

*“And Jesus answered him; blessed are you Simon bar Jonah for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.”* **Matthew 16:17**

*“Today if you hear His voice do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”* **Hebrews 3:15**

**III. Remain:** *Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up to heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy and were continually in the temple blessing God.”* **Luke 24:50- 52**

*“And now, little children, abide in him, so when he appears, we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.”* **1 John 2:28:**

*“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”* **Galatians 2:20:**

**“For he says, “In a favorable time I listened to you and in a day of salvation I have helped you. Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”** **2 Corinthians 6:2**

**God calls us to Himself; how are we going to respond?**

**Sources and Further Reading Opportunities**

- **English Standard Version Bible ( ESV )**
- **New Bible Dictionary, 2nd Edition ( J.I. Packer )**
- **Bible Believer’s Commentary ( 1990 ) William MacDonald**
- **Matthew Henry’s Commentary- Matthew Henry ( 1994 )**
- **Bible Exposition Commentary - Warren Wiersbe ( 1996 )**
- **Twelve Ordinary Men- John MacArthur**

