

## The First Disciples 2018-11-18

### John 1:35-51

*The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as He walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to Him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" 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.*

Record choosing first disciples reveals Jesus greatness/goodness so you'd believe.

### John 1:35-39

- John the Baptist points, not pushes two of his disciples (Andrew & probably John) to Jesus.
  - Because of John the Baptist's preaching and they knew Scripture, they believed in coming Messiah for eternal life but not sure it was Jesus so went to check out.

Jesus did not ask, "Who you seek?" but "What are you seeking?"...What do you want from Me?

- Status, power, comfortable life or Me to forgive your sins and give inner peace.
  - Examine motives for following Jesus...Seeking His glory or ours?
- Not answer Jesus's question but "Where stay?" question... pursued time with Jesus to get to know Him
  - All relationships take time/effort, including relationship with Jesus!
- Jesus responds with command and promise: "Come and see" faith first then knowledge.

Andrew sought and found Messiah and then gave first-person, eyewitness account to his brother and brought him to Jesus John 1:40-42, Mt 7:7

- Peter a testimony to Jesus's authority and his ability to change identity/lives.
  - Name is our identity! Jesus did not ask permission or make suggestion.
    - "rock" not qualities dormant/untapped within but in spite.
  - Jesus begins where we are at but changes us into what He wants us to be.

Jesus calls us to follow Him wherever and however He commands. John 1:43

- Jesus did not give any reason/explain just "Follow me"...not knowing what's involved.
  - Jesus never says, "Know about me." He says, "Follow me."
    - No such thing as truly believing and not following obediently.

Philip then extolled Jesus to a skeptical friend Nathanael....not argue but gave same invitation Jesus gave Andrew and brought him to Jesus....who knew Nathanael inside and out. John 1:44-51, 39

- heart/character: without deceit, hypocrisy, duplicity, phoniness....not without sin.
  - Under fig tree.....maybe reading/meditating about Genesis 28:12.

- Jesus always totally aware of everything going on in your life...inside and outside
    - Not just aware but present with you and provides all needed to glorify Him.
- Everything in this passage points to Jesus's greatness and goodness.
- Greatness of Jesus revealed in titles used.

### **Jesus Greatness Revealed in John 1:35-51**

- ◇ Lamb of God (1:36)
- ◇ Rabbi (1:38)
- ◇ Messiah (1:41)
- ◇ He of whom the Scriptures speak of (1:45, Luke 24:25-27, 44-46)
- ◇ Son of God (1:49)
- ◇ King of Israel (1:49, 2 Samuel 7:12)
- ◇ Only bridge to heaven (1:51, Genesis 28:12)
- ◇ Son of Man (1:51, Daniel 7:13-14)

Goodness of Jesus revealed in choosing "runts" of litter as His first disciples.

- 5 unknown, ordinary/common fishermen, no more spiritual than others, chosen sovereignly, in spite of weaknesses/flaws, to bestow His love/mercy.
  - Become foundation of church - first missionaries, preachers, witnesses-
    - But first/foremost, chosen to believe in Jesus and simply follow Him.
    - This recorded so you might believe and follow. John 20:31

Lost: Jesus knows everything about you, inside and out and your future...Like Peter and Nathanael

- This glorious King sees you and wants you to follow Him. John 6:37 & 44, 15:16
  - Not dragged into Kingdom of God against your will but Holy Spirit makes unwilling willing.
    - You must choose Jesus and then you'll know He chose you first.

If you're a Christian, Jesus knows everything about you and doesn't regret choosing you!

- Given you new identity and transform you if simply follow/obey...be with Jesus.
  - Jesus glorified as He reveals Himself to you as loving Messiah and uses you to reach your family, friends, world...like He did with the first disciples