

“Come and See” - John 1:40-51

Ask - “How do you typically respond to those who doubt that Jesus is the Christ?”

Background - The primary theme of John’s gospel was/is to convincingly prove that Jesus was/is the Christ, the long-awaited Messiah, and the divine Son of God. Through Him, and Him alone, God offers forgiveness of sin to mankind and reconciles believers to Himself. This truth is infused repeatedly throughout the text, including in today’s lesson.

“Andrew and Peter” - John 1:40-42

(v40) Who had the 2 men mentioned in this verse formerly followed (read verses 35-39)? What was the name of 1 of these men and who was his brother?

(v41) What did Andrew do? What title did Andrew ascribe to Jesus and why (see verse 36)?

(v42) How did Jesus and Simon first meet? What new name did Jesus give to Simon?

FOLLOWING JOHN THE BAPTIST’S DIRECTION, ANDREW AND ANOTHER OF HIS DISCIPLES LEFT TO FOLLOW JESUS. ANDREW INTRODUCED HIS BROTHER SIMON TO JESUS AND HE WAS RENAMED PETER.

“Philip” - John 1:43-46

(v43-44) Before leaving for Galilee, who did Jesus find? What did Jesus say to him? What did he have in common with Andrew and Peter?

(v45) What did Philip do? How did he describe Jesus? How does Philip’s description differ from Andrew’s? Discuss.

(v46) What was Nathanael’s response to Philip? How did Philip react to Nathanael’s skepticism? What can we learn from this?

JESUS WENT AND FOUND PHILIP AND CALLED HIM TO FOLLOW. THEN, PHILIP WENT AND FOUND NATHANAEEL. HE INVITED NATHANAEEL TO COME AND MEET JESUS ALSO, THOUGH NATHANAEEL WAS SKEPTICAL.

“Nathanael” - John 1:47-51

(v47-48) Describe the conversation that took place when Jesus first met Nathanael? What did Jesus know that somehow amazed Nathanael?

(v49) Hearing Jesus' words, who did Nathanael proclaim Him to be? Compare his description of Jesus with both Andrew's and Philip's.

(v50-51) What did Jesus tell Nathanael to look forward to? On what basis would he see these things? What name did Jesus use to describe Himself? How does it fit in those previous descriptions given by Andrew, Philip, and Nathanael?

WHEN NATHANAEL MET JESUS, HE BELIEVED AND DECLARED THAT JESUS WAS THE SON OF GOD. JESUS INVITED NATHANAEL TO FOLLOW HIM ALSO AND CALLED HIMSELF THE SON OF MAN.

Application - This passage introduces us to 4 of Jesus' 12 apostles and records how they first met. It describes how Andrew went to tell his brother Peter and Philip went to tell his friend (and likely his brother) Nathanael about Jesus. This should be our approach also, to go tell others. Also, this passage highlights the dual nature of Jesus - that he was simultaneously both fully God and fully man. Why is this important?