



The First Disciples
3rd in the “Life in his Name?” Series
John 1:35-51, p. 886
Sept 16, 2018

Introduction

In this passage God introduces the first disciples of Jesus and the nature of becoming disciples of Jesus.

The Text: John 1:35-51

1) The Christian life progresses from seeing Jesus, to following Jesus, to bringing others to Jesus (vv. 35-42).

a) The Gospel transitions here from the ministry of John the Baptist to the ministry of Jesus (vv. 35-36).

b) Jesus is always the one who initiates, examines, and invites people to himself (vv. 37-39).

c) Christians are not simply disciples of Jesus, they are also to serve as disciple makers (vv. 40-42).

2) Christians are assigned to make disciples, but God is the one who makes himself known (vv. 43-51).

a) The ministry of Jesus in the world is inclusive of the ministry of his disciples (vv. 43-45).

b) Jesus might first appear unimpressive or insignificant, but God reveals the truth about him (vv. 46-49).

c) God reveals himself through Jesus, the fullest and final revelation of God’s grace and truth (vv. 50-51).

Response

Christians, point others to Jesus! To you who doubt, “come and see” Jesus! And know that God is working too!

Sunday Text Questions for John 1:35-51

September 16, 2018

Pastor Mickey Klink

- 1) Starter Question: Since this is a text about people meeting Jesus for the first time, share with the group how you first met Jesus.
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) What do you think Jesus is saying when he invites these first, seeking disciples to “come and see” in v. 39?
- 4) How do people “come and see” Jesus today? How might the church have a role in “showing” Jesus?
- 5) Vv. 35-42 summarize the witness of John the Baptist to Jesus (vv. 35-37) and the witness of Andrew to Jesus (vv. 40-42a). What do these examples teach us about witnessing and leading people to Jesus?
- 6) What is the renaming of Simon Peter supposed to tell us about Peter and about Jesus?
- 7) Why was Nathanael so unimpressed with Jesus when he first heard about him, and what changed his opinion (vv. 46-50)? How might God give insight to people about himself and their own lives today?
- 8) What does Jesus mean when he says to Nathaniel in v. 50: “You will see greater things than these?”
- 9) What is v. 51 saying about Jesus (aka, “the Son of Man”)?
- 10) What does this entire text teach us about becoming and living as disciples of Jesus?

Further study this week: Genesis 28 on the comparison between Jacob’s Ladder and Jesus (Mon); Psalm 90 on God “turning” toward his people (Tues); Psalm 32 on being a true worshipper like Nathanael (Wed); Acts 24, esp. v. 5, on the sect of the Nazarenes (Thurs); Matthew 16:13-20 on Peter’s confession of Christ (Fri).