

LIFE GROUP notes

22 May



Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Gospel of John – week 4



Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member or work colleague your testimony of why you love and serve Jesus?
2. What was John the Baptist's testimony of Jesus in John 1:36?
(And looking at Jesus as He walked, John said; "behold the Lamb of God.").
3. What did John's disciples do after John's testimony of Jesus in John 1:37?
(The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.).
4. How did Andrew hear of Jesus and believed in Him according to John 1:40?
(Andrew came to Jesus because of the preaching of John.).



Let's go deeper

5. What did Jesus tell Peter when He saw him in John 1:42?
(Jesus said; "you are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas.").
6. Whom did Phillip find in John 1:45; and said to him; "we have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets wrote – Jesus"? **(Nathanael)**.
7. When Jesus saw Nathanael what did He tell him in v.47?
(Jesus said; "behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit.").
8. What was Nathanael's testimony of Jesus in v.49?
(He said; "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel.").
9. Where did Jesus see Nathanael according to v.50? **(Under the fig tree.)**.



Let's apply this

10. John 1:35; Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "behold the Lamb of God."

Andrew came to Jesus because of the preaching of John. **Peter** came to Jesus because of the witness of his brother. **Phillip** came to Jesus as a result of the direct call of Jesus. **Nathaniel** came to Jesus because of a personal encounter with Jesus.

- How did Jesus reveal Himself to you?
- When you tell a friend of Jesus, what do you tell them?
- Ask the Holy Spirit to empower this week to tell people about Jesus.

SUMMARY:

Gospel of John: Week 4 (Testimony of Jesus' first disciples).

Read: John 1:35 – 51

v.35 – 39; John already said this of Jesus in John 1:29. To him, it was the most important thing about Jesus. John the Baptist did not care about gathering disciples after himself. He was perfectly satisfied to have these disciples leave his circle and follow Jesus. It fulfilled his ministry; it did not take away from it. Jesus taught and trained His twelve disciples by allowing them to live with Him.

v.40 – 44; Andrew met Jesus, and then wanted his brother Simon Peter to meet Jesus. Each time Andrew is mentioned in the Gospel of John, he is bringing someone to Jesus (also at John 6:8 and 12:22). There was nothing dramatic recorded about the call of Philip. Jesus simply said to him, "Follow Me," and Philip did.

v.45 – 51; Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets wrote: This was Philip's testimony as a witness of Jesus Christ. He declared that He as the Messiah and the Saviour predicted in the Old Testament.

Nathanael responded to Philip's announcement with prejudice. Hearing that Jesus came from Nazareth, Nathanael thought he had no more reason to think that He might be the Messiah or anyone important. Instead of arguing against Nathanael's prejudice, Phillip simply invited him to meet Jesus for himself.

Under the fig tree was a phrase Rabbis used to describe meditation on the Scriptures. We can suppose that Nathanael spent time in prayer and in meditating on the Scriptures, and Jesus told him "I saw you" there.

You are the Son of God, the King of Israel: This was the testimony of Nathanael regarding Jesus.

This section of John shows four ways of coming to Jesus:

Andrew came to Jesus because of the preaching of John. **Peter** came to Jesus because of the witness of his brother. **Phillip** came to Jesus as a result of the direct call of Jesus. **Nathaniel** came to Jesus as he overcame personal prejudices by a personal encounter with Jesus.

This section shows us **four different witnesses testifying to the identity of Jesus.** **John the Baptist** testified that Jesus is eternal, anointed with the Holy Spirit, that He is the Lamb of God, and that Jesus is the unique Son of God.

Andrew testified that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ.

Phillip testified that Jesus is the One prophesied in the Old Testament.

Nathaniel testified that Jesus is the Son of God and the King of Israel.