

6. The First Disciples

John 1:35 - End

This is now the third day in the sequence - see verses 29,43, & 2:1

The two disciples of John who followed Jesus were Andrew and his friend John, the writer of the Gospel,

"It was about four o'clock in the afternoon." (v39) It may very well be that he finishes that way because he was one of the two himself He could tell you the very hour of the day and no doubt the very stone of the road he was standing on when he met Jesus. At four o'clock on a spring afternoon in Galilee, life became a new thing for him.

"What are you seeking?" (v38) Jesus was asking them what sort of leader they were looking for. Were they looking for a revolutionary leader to overthrow Rome? Then they had better join the Zealots!

But also isn't this the most fundamental question in life. "What are you looking for?" A question for our friends - evangelism.

"Where are You dwelling?" (v38) may have suggested, "If You are too busy now, we can visit later." But Jesus invited them to spend the day with Him (it was 10 a.m.) and no doubt He told them something of His mission, revealed their own hearts to them, and answered their questions. They were both so impressed that they found their brothers and brought them to Jesus. Andrew found Simon and John brought James.

v40 ff Whenever you find Andrew in John's Gospel, he is bringing somebody to Jesus: his brother, the lad with the loaves and fishes ([John 6:8](#)), and the Greeks who wanted to see Jesus ([John 12:20-21](#)). No sermons from Andrew are recorded, but he certainly preached great sermons by his actions as a personal soul winner!

Also Andrew was characteristically the man who was prepared to take the second place. Again and again he is identified as Simon Peter's brother

v42 - "You will be called "The Rock"'" How Jesus looks at men. He does not only see what a man is; he also sees what a man can become. Jesus looked at Peter and saw in him not only a Galilean fisherman but one who had it in him to become the rock on which his church would be built. Jesus sees us not only as we are, but as we can be;

v43 - Nathanael started out a doubter: he did not believe that anything worthwhile could come out of Nazareth. Our Lord was born in Bethlehem, but He grew up in Nazareth and bore that stigma To be called "a Nazarene" meant to be looked down on and rejected.

When Nathanael hesitated and argued, Philip adopted our Lord's own words: "Come and see"

When Jesus revealed His knowledge of Nathanael, where he had been and what he had been doing, this was enough to convince the man that Jesus indeed was "the Son of God, the King of Israel." His experience was like that of the Samaritan woman at the well. "When He [Messiah] is come, He will tell us all things.... Come, see a man who told me all things that ever I did" ([John 4:25, 29](#)).

What about Christ stirs skepticism today?

So How did each of the disciples come to meet Jesus?

It is worth noting that Andrew and John trusted Christ through the faithful preaching of John the Baptist. Peter and James came to Christ because of the compassionate personal work of their brothers. Later on, Jesus would win Philip personally; and then Philip would witness to Nathanael and bring him to Jesus

Jesus only called Phillip directly! The others were brought (or sent) to him by friends. - THE KEY TO EVANGELISM

Whom do you want to introduce to Jesus?

At the close of that fourth day, Jesus had six believing men who were His disciples. They did not immediately "forsake all and follow Him"; that was to come later. But they had trusted Him and experienced His power.