



October 1-2, 2022

Ice Breaker Questions

- In today's text, Jesus has various titles, and some people have two different names.
 - What different titles have been part of your life? What roles have you played so far? (eg. on a sports team or volunteer team / at work / at home).
 - What 'names' have you answered to? Have you had a nick-name at any point in your life?

Understand Their Story

In John 1:35-51, we get a front row seat to the drama which unfolds as people begin to grasp who Jesus is. We see people asking questions of Jesus, bringing friends to meet Jesus and declaring things about Jesus.

1. Who do the first two disciples leave in order to follow Jesus? Based on what you know about this individual, how do you think he would have responded to them leaving him?
 - a. How does your knowledge of his character and priorities challenge or encourage you?

2. What questions does Jesus ask those who begin to follow him? What different invitations does he extend to them?
 - a. How can his question and invitations inform the way you think about sharing who Jesus is with people?

3. By the end of this chapter, which 4 people are following Jesus? How did each of them come to Jesus?

Connect to His Story.

4. People give Jesus various titles in this text because of how the Old Testament has described a future deliverer and savior. What titles are listed, and what does each mean (what is its significance)?

5. Read John 1:51 and then Read Genesis 28:10-22.
 - a. Who else saw heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending? What was significant about this person?

 - b. What parallel is Jesus drawing between himself and this person?

Apply to Our Story

John 1:35-51 describes the first evangelistic efforts made by followers of Jesus. It is God's will that the Church should grow! Over the last two weeks we've asked you to identify and pray for people in your life who don't know or haven't received Jesus. Both Jesus and Philip encourage people to "come and see" Jesus.

6. How could you be part of inviting people to "come and see" Jesus? What are different ways you could issue an invitation? What events or activities might you invite them to?

Prayer

- *Pray in Adoration: Jesus is the Lamb of God, the Anointed one, the Son of God, the King of Israel!*
- *Pray in Confession for the times in which you have been too silent or too pushy as you've tried to introduce people to Jesus. How can you simply be open & inviting?*
- *Pray in Supplication for boldness to kindly invite people to come and see Jesus.*

God's work and our Work

How All of Life Connects to the Gospel - in John 1:35-51

The Theology of Work commentary on this text notes:

"John appears to go out of his way to crowd as many people as possible on stage with Jesus in chapter 1. John the Baptist points Jesus out to Andrew and another disciple. Andrew gets his brother Simon. Philip, who is from the same town as Andrew and Simon, finds Nathanael. It is not simply that Jesus will advance his mission *through* a web of interpersonal relationships. Weaving a web of relationships *is the point* of the whole enterprise.

But the disciples are not just buddies basking in the radiance of Jesus' friendship. They are also his workers. They are not working in an obvious way yet in chapter 1 (though even the fetching of siblings and neighbors is a type of evangelistic labor), but work they will....Work produces results while it also builds relationships...¹

- What relationships are you building with people in your everyday "work" (at home, in your family, neighbourhood or community, at the location you work or volunteer)?
- Think of one specific person or group of people whom you "work" alongside. What is one thing you could do this week to add depth and breadth to your relationship with that person or group of people this week, so that the 'web' of your relationship with them grows stronger.

¹ <https://www.theologyofwork.org/new-testament/john/calling-disciple-friends-john-135-51>