

10 Come and You Will See

John 1:35-42

REVIEW AND INTRODUCTION

In our text last week John The Baptist identified Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. An implication is that Jesus came as the Lamb of God, not a political leader. The biggest issue Jesus dealt with is sin. But people today try to make Jesus their political leader or government reformer. We must remember that the first priority is to introduce people to Jesus as the one who will remove their sin.

In last week's text the Messiah was announced publicly to anyone who was within ear shot. Today's text shows The Baptist introducing Jesus to his disciples.

READING THE TEXT

John 1:35-42

35 The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, 36 and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. 38 Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" 39 He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. 40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). 42

He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter).

PREACHING THE TEXT

John 1:35-42

³⁵ *The next day again*

COUNTDOWN TO GLORY CONTINUED

Last week we mentioned that the author of this book was counting days. From the first public announcement of Jesus as Messiah until the day in which Jesus affirmed His Messiahship was on a countdown. This is the third day of the countdown that will end at the wedding in Cana.

AGAIN

I believe John the author of this book used the word; ***“again”*** because he wanted to let the reader know that he is not just giving us more information about the previous day.

Similar to the previous day John is by the river and Jesus approaches.

^{35 continued} *John was standing with two of his disciples,*

John may have been in an unscripted moment. Unscripted moments are often when God shows up.

Watch this scene unfold and imagine the subtleties involved. The Baptist has been teaching his disciples that he is not the Messiah, but The Baptist has been sent as a prophet and voice to announce the arrival of the Messiah. It is clear that The Baptist is preparing his followers to follow after the Messiah when He appears.

³⁶ ***and he (John) looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!”***

FOCUS ON JESUS

John and his disciples were looking at Jesus as Jesus walked by. Focusing your attention on Jesus leads to good things. Jesus is always doing something. Watch for where Jesus is showing up and join Him there.

LOOKING FOR A GOD SIGHTING

Two weeks ago after the service we were having lunch with Kami Scott who led worship that day. She noticed that I was concentrating on something during the meal. What I was doing was praying silently and trying to notice if God wanted to give me any words of encouragement for her. In other words, I was waiting for Jesus to walk by. It is something you train your mind and heart to do.

Fourteen years ago God told me to invite Kami to train as a counselor in my Christian Clinic. Today she is one of the most gifted counselors in the Twin Ports. It began in a moment in time when Jesus walked by and said; “Mike, train her to follow me as a Christian Counselor.”

John was training his people to follow Jesus. And he was waiting and watching for Jesus to show up and guide him.

LAMB OF GOD

On the previous day John introduced to the world Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. The Lamb of God meets our greatest need which is to remove our sin so that we are in right standing with God.

THE BIG HANDOFF

On this day The Baptist points out Jesus as the Lamb of God to his own disciples.

³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

The two disciples heard John say; “here is the Messiah, The Lamb of God.” They did the only reasonable thing when the Messiah appeared...drop everything and follow Him!

JOHN’S PREPARATION

The Baptist was not preparing disciples to follow him forever. He was preparing disciples to follow Jesus.

That is ALWAYS the outcome of good disciple making. We are equipping people to think rightly about Jesus and we are preparing them to follow Jesus wherever he may lead.

EVERY CULT & CO-DEPENDENT LEADER

Every cult is born when someone demands that people follow their prophet instead of following the real Jesus of the Bible. When Jesus is diminished cults and false teachers are born.

A good disciple maker does not equip codependent disciples who need them forever. A godly disciple maker sets up his disciples so that they can follow Christ and train their own disciples.

Look at how quickly the two disciples of The Baptist leave him to follow Jesus into the next phase of life and ministry. They are prepared to act when Jesus shows up. They are prepared to obey Jesus and follow Jesus and put Him first. Who are you mentoring? Are you equipping them to follow Jesus first?

So Jesus suddenly has the two disciples of The Baptist in tow.

³⁸ Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?”

RABBI

The term; “Rabbi” means “Teacher” or Literally; “Great One.” This is the title that one used when he wanted to become a follower or disciple of a teacher.

WHAT ARE YOU SEEKING?

Jesus often asked people to clarify verbally what they wanted of Him. Jesus asked the cripple; **“do you want to be well?”** In Matthew 16 we read about Jesus asking his disciples; **“who do you say that I am?”**

When we want to be saved from our sin Jesus wants us to verbalize our desire. That is why the bible says;

Romans 10:9 esv

⁹... if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

These two disciples of The Baptist wanted to become followers of Jesus. They were in the physical act of following him and now Jesus asks them to verbalize their intention.

WE ARE SEEKING YOUR DWELLING PLACE

In 1st century culture when you identified yourself as a follower of a teacher you stayed with them and learned from them as you shared life together.

So when John and Andrew asked about his house, Jesus knew they wanted to come stay with Him and become His disciples. Can you imagine

what it must have been like to stay in the house of Jesus and interact with Him personally face to face. **1 Corinthians 14** tells us we will see Him face to face. I can't wait for that day.

So the two disciples asked Jesus where he was staying....

³⁹ He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.

COME AND SEE

The words "come and see" are profoundly gracious.

CALVIN: This kind and gracious invitation, which was once made to two persons, now belongs to all. We ought not therefore to fear that Christ will withdraw from us or refuse to us easy access, provided that he sees us desirous to come to him; but, on the contrary, he will stretch out his hand to assist our endeavors. And how will not he meet those who come to him, who seeks at a distance those who are wandering and astray, that he may bring them back to the right road?

-----END CALVIN

I have heard dozens of people tell me that they have sinned too greatly to be in the presence of God. I have heard others express feelings of worthlessness not believing the God of the universe would have time to hear their prayers and help them bring order and joy to their life.

Calvin makes a great point. Here are two ordinary people. The Baptist made time to disciple them. And Jesus welcomes them into his home and begins to mentor them for the next three years. Jesus was not

hesitant to welcome them into His own home. Rather than indifference we will see Jesus seeking out people to follow Him and be discipled.

Know that it is a joy to Jesus when you approach Him and follow Him and seek wisdom and guidance from Him. You can't wear Him out by asking too many questions. You won't wear Him out by calling too often. You have not outsinned His ability to give you grace.

Hebrews 4:16

¹⁶ Let us then *with confidence draw near* to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

THE TENTH HOUR

Jesus and the two disciples arrived at the house of Jesus at around the 10th hour a.k.a. 4pm. They must have shared a meal and much conversation. If we show hospitality to others and offer to disciple people some will come to Christ and grow in their faith.

⁴⁰ *One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.*

John the author writes in humility. He identifies Andrew but he does not identify himself by name. Andrew is convinced that this is the Messiah. You can tell he is convinced by what he does immediately after spending time with Jesus.

⁴¹ *He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ).*

WE HAVE FOUND HIM!

Do you remember how excited you were the first time you met Jesus? When I received Jesus Christ as my Savior I was running and

leaping and shouting. I was free of my hatred and violence and addictions. I was set free. The Spirit of God lived in me. God's presence in my heart. I could not believe it.

Then I began sharing with others this amazing discovery. I felt as though I found a semi load of diamonds. I found the lifegiver. Rather He found me. My greatest shock was that others were not as thrilled as I. I learned that you can tell people the truth about Jesus but it is the Holy Spirit's job to convince people.

You can tell that Andrew is convinced that this is the Messiah by the way he rushes out to invite his brother to follow Jesus.

THE PRIVATE WITNESS OF A FRIEND

Even in the first century one of the most powerful tools of evangelism is the witness and testimony of a trusted friend or relative. Today over 85 percent of those who come to faith in Jesus Christ are invited by a friend or relative to come and hear for themselves about Jesus as He is preached. In other words, each one of us is by far the most effective means of evangelism to our friends and family.

Our witness begins by being filled with the Spirit of God so that people can see God at work in us each day. Then when we speak, or act our words and actions are backed up by the life of The Spirit. People will listen, and perhaps a few will follow you to meet Jesus.

Andrew is excited to tell Peter what he has found.

⁴² ***He brought him to Jesus.***

BRINGING PEOPLE TO JESUS

There are a few ways that we can bring people to see the presence of Jesus.

First, we can share with them what God has done in our lives. The Holy Spirit can use our testimony to make the presence of Jesus real to others.

The second thing is that we can become the servant of all and love others with the love of Jesus. Serve and love from the heart.

The third thing we can do is pray in the Spirit for those who need Jesus. There are some things God will only accomplish through Spirit led prayers.

Fourth, we can love one another in a similar way that the Father and Son love one another. In John 17 Jesus prays that we will be one as the Father and Jesus are one. The purpose of this oneness is to prove that Jesus is real and was sent by the Father.

It is my testimony that the love believers had for one another was so tangible and so real God used their love for one another to transform my life and save my soul.

So what happened to Peter when he first saw Jesus?

42 continued ***Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter).***

JESUS GIVES A NEW IDENTITY

When you follow Jesus you get a new identity. This plays out in a few different ways.

First, you no longer identify yourself primarily by your accomplishments or failures. Your primary identity has to do with your relationship to Jesus.

Second, those who follow Jesus have spiritual gifts that come to life. This identifies the new identity and role that God gave each of us in His family and body.

Thirdly, we are no longer preoccupied with impressing others. Our preoccupation is to point others to Jesus and find joy in giving away life.

JESUS KNEW WHO PETER WOULD BECOME

The last thing to point out is that Jesus knows what you will become. One of the ways we wear ourselves out is trying to discover what we should do with our life without consulting our Lord and Savior.

This world tells us to live up to our potential. But Jesus says; “follow me!” Follow Jesus into whatever field he leads you. Do your work as an act of worship to the Lord. Do your sport as to the Lord. God will use your efforts done to His glory to open doors for the gospel. Jesus does not say; “live up to your potential” He says; “follow me.” He will lead you where He wants you. God is Sovereign and He is able to place you where you are called according to His purposes. Enjoy Him wherever he has you.

TAKING IT HOME

1. In what ways are you preparing others to follow Jesus?
2. Are you following Jesus wherever he may lead you?
3. Are you introducing others to Him?
4. Are you being filled with The Spirit daily so that your invitations and disciple making are done in the power of Christ?