

COME AND SEE

John 1:35-51



SYNOPSIS

In his old age, the apostle John writes about Jesus' first encounter with his closest disciples. All of these men - John's brothers/friends - have since been martyred. John may have been thinking fondly of each of their first meetings with their rabbi/master as he reflected on their lives and deaths.

Andrew followed John the Baptist before, out of curiosity, he spent a whole day with Jesus. Phillip was invited by Jesus himself to "follow me". For Peter and Nathanael, the invitation was simple. "Come and see."

Unhurried time spent with Jesus seemed to be compelling enough for the fathers of our faith to evangelize and to give their lives for his sake.

To John, Jesus was not an aggressive recruiter. Jesus's personhood spoke volumes. He simply issued open invitations to people to experience him.



OUTLINE

1

BEING WITH JESUS TRANSFORMS US INTO NEW PEOPLE

Andrew spent a day with Jesus. Whatever happened between them convinced him that Jesus was the Messiah. The detail of 4 p.m. might show Andrew's urgency in wanting to share with his brother even after the work day, and Peter exerted himself to meet Jesus on the force of Andrew's invitation.

Jesus changes Peter's name and, thus, the trajectory of his life. Peter would fish for people. The Church would be built on him.

What we need for true, deep transformation is long, unhurried time with Jesus. This unhurried fellowship with him breaks the control that our old identities have over us so that we can live out our new identities in Christ.

2

BEING WITH JESUS OVERCOMES OUR MISGUIDED BIASES AND RAISES HOPES

Nazareth had a poor reputation. It had a population of 150, a low-class dialect, a functional atheism, and a moral laxity. Shortly after Jesus's birth, Rome burned Sepphoris (4 miles away) to the ground and crucified 2000 Jews for raiding the garrison there. Nathanael rightly questioned whether anything good could come from Nazareth.

Jesus spoke prophetic words to Nathanael. He called him an "Israelite", an antiquated term affirming Nathanael's desire for the true king of Israel to bring an era of prosperity, every man sitting under his own vine and fig tree. Moved by this prophetic ministry, Nathanael knew that Jesus saw him and intended to bring the Kingdom of God. Despite his cynicism, Nathanael reawakened hope when he confessed Jesus as the Son of God and King of Israel.

Jesus's response to Nathanael are his words to all believers today: You ain't seen nothin' yet.



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

How has Jesus changed the trajectory of your life/identity?

2

When was the last time you spent unhurried time with Jesus?

3

What aspects of your identity is God now transforming? How would unhurried time with Jesus feed that transformation?

4

What are some biases God may be challenging in your life? How do those challenges create room for hope?

5

When you hear Jesus communicate, "You ain't seen nothing yet," what do you hope he means?



BIG IDEA

Jesus: I am the one who changes your name and life trajectory. Hope in me. You ain't seen nothing yet.

