

Jesus' Calling the First Disciples – Jan. 20, 2021

John 1 begins w/ Jesus as the light & John the Baptist's connection to Jesus

“He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe.” – **John 1:7**.

Note: John was a follower of J/B.

- “The next day” in v. **29** isn't the day after Jesus was baptized, it's the day after John was questioned by Jewish leaders.

- J/B sees Him; testifies to what he saw during baptism. **John 1:29-34**.

Following day, J/B points out Jesus – “Look the Lamb of God.” **John 1:35-50**

- 1st disciples meet Jesus and go to where He was “staying.”

- This is after Jesus' temptation. He likely just returned from desert.
- Mark 1:12 says “and immediately” Jesus was led to be temped.
 - J/B points to Jesus. That's our job, too – point out Jesus.

1. With those 5 disciples & John the B, **5 names** for Jesus are given:

“Lamb of God; Rabbi; Messiah; Son of God; King of Kings.”

- Reputation draws us to Him, but takes time to really know who He is.
- Took them 3 years to really know Him as Savior.
- What is so easily professed has to be worked out in experience.
 - Talking about Jesus is easy; Trusting Him is harder.
 - Our journeys move from head knowledge to personal knowledge
 - You'll never know He can solve problem till you give to Him

2. - We should be excited to share Jesus with others

- Andrew & John meet Jesus first; Andrew brings bro Peter to Jesus
- Jesus then meets Philip, who then brings Nathaniel to Jesus
 - J/B was to point people to Jesus; that's our job, too!

3. – Jesus calls some, but **most of us are introduced to Jesus by others**.

a. “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him” – **John 6:44**

- i. Some are curious about religions, others are brought
- ii. We'll be led to share our stories. All of that is God drawing us to Himself.

- b. We may arrive differently, but it's always b/c God is calling us.
 - i. First, God calls us to His love; know our need for a Savior.
 - ii. Next, God calls us to live out our purpose: share Him.
Be a light on the hill.

Most popular, widely discussed story of Jesus' calling the disciples is:

Matt. 4:12 – After John's imprisonment, Jesus goes to Capernaum.

- Walking by sea of Galilee, Jesus calls Peter & Andrew, then James and John to follow Him. **Matt. 4:18-22.** (also Mark 1:16-20)
- By itself, this makes you think it was instantaneous following
- It's not. They've already known Him. Now, take it to a new level.
- There's a time for learning/following, & time for sharing/leading
 - o We must know Him before we can follow Him.
 - o We must follow Him before we can serve Him.
 - o We must serve Him by sharing our stories with others.
 - If you think you can't share Jesus with your friends, you need to re-think who your friends are.
 - Jesus calls all of us to share our light; city on a hill.

Song – "Softly and Tenderly" by The Martins