



# The Life of Jesus

## A CHRONOLOGICAL STUDY

### Lesson 19: Finding Jesus and Jesus Finding Us: The First Disciples John 1:35-51

#### I. The Three “Jesus Cameos”

A. After Jesus’ baptism and testing in the desert - “the next day”s that John writes in his gospel to finish Chapter 1

1. v.29 - JTB has seen the Son of God
2. v.35 - Andrew and Peter
3. v.43 – Philip and Nathanael

B. This isn’t a play-by-play documentary – Chronology is NOT John’s point

#### II. vv.35-36

A. JTB is living what he’ll say in 3:30: *He must increase, but I must decrease*

B. Who were these two disciples?

1. Andrew – (v.40)
2. Mystery Man?? Some think Philip; others John the Apostle

C. JTB has already “borne witness” the Lamb of God is the Son of God

#### III. vv.37-39

A. “Rabbi (which means teacher)” is more notation of a non-Jewish audience

B. “Followed” - this was a literal following of a rabbi

C. “What are you seeking? Come and see” - Jesus’ first words recorded in His ministry - He’s still asking

D. v.39 - “about the tenth hour” 4:00 PM - Assuming the “other disciple” is John begs the question: Do you recall the very hour you met Jesus?

- These 2 were ready to follow, it was getting close to supper time and they were ready to be with the Lamb

#### **IV. vv.40-42**

A. In John’s Gospel Andrew is always bringing someone to Jesus

B. v.41- How far away was Peter? The “other disciple” get his brother, too? Maybe James?

C. v.42 - At the time we follow Jesus He already knows how He will transform us for His purpose

#### **V. vv.43-44**

A. v.43 - Jesus had all He needed in the wilderness and was head to His home country

- Another Sunday School lesson: Jesus found me and said “Follow Me”

B. Bethsaida

#### **VI. vv.45-46**

A. v.45 – Philip knows his Scripture:

1. This is the One Moses wrote about

2. This is the One the prophets wrote about

B. Pondering: Were Peter, Andrew and John there? How did Philip know Jesus was the “son of Joseph from Nazareth?”

C. Nathanael was Bartholomew in other Gospels and Acts

D. v.46 – Cana vs. Nazareth?

#### **VII. vv.47-50**

A. v.47 – An Israelite with no deceit – Note John doesn’t say “a Jew” - A reference to Jacob which gets fleshed out in a few verses

B. At some point in time Jesus saw Nathanael under the fig tree (Saw him omnipotently – Nate was impressed Saw him before in Cana learning from others?)

## C. Rabbis and Fig Trees

### 1. Zechariah 3:8-10

## D. Phil and Nate – Seekers?

Maybe...They were seekers of knowledge from rabbis - They knew Scripture and the expectation of the Messiah to be revealed - Philip realizes Messiah is here (not because of JTB) - Philip gets Nathanael and is saying “Here is the Messiah” even after Nate’s wrong assumptions - Nathanael understands this is the King of Israel Who is also the Son of God

## VIII. v.51

A. “Verily, verily” – Amen and Amen - John uses the terms 25 times - This is the first

B. Son of Man - John uses 13 times and in NT most connect to end times

C. Genesis 28:10-22

## D. God Shows Up

1. Jacob gets a new name - So does Peter – Nathanael is known as Bartholomew
2. Jacob is Israel – Jesus is the King of Israel
3. Gen 28:20 - “God with me” - Jesus was God in the flesh - He was THERE
4. Jacob was a deceiver – Nathanael had no deceit who was an Israelite (a post-Jacobite)
5. The ascending and descending direct connect to Jacob’s dream
6. Beth-El: House of God - God’s new house is not a temple but these disciples

## IX. My Take-Aways

- When we follow Jesus we can expect a “new name” of Christian
- Cephas and Jacob got new names
- We acknowledge He is both Son and King
- We need to be like JTB, Andrew and Philip – getting people to Jesus

Questions? Comments? Thoughts?  
[nick@nickwalters.org](mailto:nick@nickwalters.org)

 NICK WALTERS

[www.nickwalters.org/fbj](http://www.nickwalters.org/fbj)