WITNESS Message 2 October 6-7, 2012

"Come and You Will See" John 1:35-51

The calling of the Jesus' first disciples demonstrates two principles for making spiritual progress.

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!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus 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?" ³⁹He 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. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). 42He 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). ⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." 46 Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." 47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." ⁴⁹Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man." John 1:35-51 (English Standard Version)

• Principle #1: ASSOCIATION AND INVITATION

(See Malcolm Gladwell's the book, *The Tipping Point*)

John the Baptist invites John and Andrew. (John 1:35-39)

- Andrew invites Peter. (John 1:40-42)
 - The Old Testament predicted a coming "anointed one," who would lead and save God's people. (2 Samuel 7:5-16; Psalm 110:1-4; Isaiah 9:6-7)
- Jesus invites Philip (John 1:43)
 - "Found" = Greek = *heuriskei* = a "purposeful act of looking for and going to a person"
- Philip invites Nathanael. (John 1:44-51)

Application



- Principle #2: RESPONSE
 - It is important for believers to take steps of faith in response to their present understanding of Jesus.
 - You don't have to have complete understanding to respond to Jesus.

Application

What is Jesus calling you to do or be right now? What is the next step? What faith response is He asking you to make?