



## *Who is Jesus? The Gospel of John – Week 4*

Preacher: Sandy Mason

Text: John 1:35-51

### Introduction:

Jesus begins to gather a group of disciples to himself, and we also begin to see a shift of importance from the ministry of John the Baptist to Jesus' own ministry. In this passage, we will see some incredible transformations in the lives of ordinary men as they truly encounter Jesus for the first time and are forever changed.

### Discussion:

1. What was the most important or memorable insight for you from this week's message?
2. What do you think about Jesus' statement: "Come and you will see," in v. 39? Was this a simple invitation to see Jesus' residence, or a call to something greater? How does the text support your answer?
3. How important was John's witness in Andrew's life (v. 36)? And how important was Andrew's subsequent witness in the life of his brother Simon Peter (v. 41)?  
APPLICATION: What implications does that have for us as Christ-followers?

4. Why do you think Jesus changed Peter's name? For additional insight check out Matt. 16:18; Luke 22:31–32; John 21:15–19. Notice the names Jesus uses when he addresses Peter in each instance.
  
5. How might Nathanael's prejudice (v. 46) have clouded his judgment when it came to recognizing Jesus? What help did he need? APPLICATION: How might this interaction help us in our own conversations with those who don't yet know Jesus?
  
6. What was the purpose of the sign Jesus gave Nathanael in v. 48 (supernatural knowledge about him that wouldn't be possible through normal means)? What response did it cause (v. 49)?
  
7. What do you make of Jesus' response to Nathanael's newfound belief, and the associated promises he makes to those who follow him (vv.50-51)? How does the image of "...heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man," further enhance the disciples' understanding of who Jesus is and what he would do? Check out Ezek. 1:1, Matt. 3:16 and Luke 3:21, Gen. 28.12, and Daniel 7:13 for more context for this imagery.
  
8. How would you 'title' this section? In other words, how would you restate the main purpose John had (as the author) in writing this passage?
  
9. Which of the new disciples in this passage do you most identify with? The cynicism of Nathanael? The curiosity of Simon Peter? The obedient faith of Philip? How will recognizing the different responses to the revelation of Jesus help us as we share the good news in our own spheres of influence?