

How To Tell Others About Jesus

Lesson 30

John 1:43-51

Memory Verse

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

Have you ever had some exciting news to share? It is fun to tell others terrific news. Philip helped Nathanael learn some good news.

Introduction

Jesus had many friends. He had 12 that were very close to Him. They were friends who left all they had to follow Jesus. Jesus trained them and helped them understand who He was and what God was doing. They were with Jesus the last 3 years of His life on earth. They loved Him very much.

In John 1, we can see the first time Jesus met these 12 men and how He asked each of them to come and follow Him. He never forced anyone to follow Him. All 12 made decisions to leave what they were doing and follow Jesus.

Scripture

John 1:43-44

The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me."

Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida.

Discussion

Ask: What did Jesus say to Philip?

Jesus had seen a man named Philip. Jesus simply said to him, "Follow me."

Ask: What did Philip do?

Philip followed Jesus and was excited to tell his friends about Him.

John 1:45

Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

Ask: What did Philip do next?

Philip ran to Nathanael, who was sitting under a fig tree. This tree was probably a good, shady place to think and pray. In the summer, fig trees have small fruit called figs.

Nathanael listened as Philip told him about Jesus. Philip said, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Bible. It is God's Son. His name is Jesus and He is from Nazareth."

John 1:46

"Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," said Philip.

Discussion

Ask: What was Nathanael's response?

When Nathanael heard this, he said, "The town of Nazareth! Can anything good come from that town?" (Nathanael probably said this because He knew that God's Son was supposed to come from Bethlehem. We know that Jesus WAS born in Bethlehem.) Philip didn't try to argue with Nathanael or persuade him. He simply said, "Come and see for yourself." So, Nathanael and Philip together went to see Jesus.

John 1:47-48

When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false."

"How do you know me?" Nathanael asked.

Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you."

Ask: What did Jesus say to Nathanael?

Jesus saw them as they were walking and said to Nathanael, "You are a true man who believes in God. There is nothing false about you."

Application

Ask: What was Nathanael's response?

Nathanael looked puzzled. He said, "How do you know me?"

Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were sitting under the fig tree before Philip asked you to come."

When Nathanael heard this, he knew that Jesus was God's Son. He knew something that no one else could have known. He shared, "Teacher, You are God's Son. You are the new King."

Jesus was amazed that he would believe so quickly. He told him that he would see many great things in the future.

Ask: What is our response to Jesus?

Nathanael did see something very amazing. He saw Jesus when He had come back to life! (John 21) He ate with Jesus and knew that He was alive again!

We do not have an opportunity to see Jesus and touch Him. But, we can know that He is alive and that He is in Heaven. We can read the Bible and know that Jesus did something for us that was so incredible. He died on a cross for all the bad things we have done. He did this so that He could make a way for us to go to Heaven. We don't just automatically go to Heaven; we must believe in Jesus and ask Him to come into our hearts. He gets rid of all the sin in our lives and makes us new on the inside. He helps us do things God's way and follow Him. Nathanael knew that Jesus was God's Son and he followed Jesus.

Application

Ask: Would you like to invite Jesus to be a part of your life?

God wants us to know Him and to know His love. But God does not force us to follow Him. He waits for us to invite Him to be a part of our lives.

Ask: Would you like to invite Jesus to be a part of your life?

Romans 10:9-10

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Romans 10:9-10 tell us that we need to do two things. First, we have to confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord. Second, we have to believe in our heart that God has raised him from the dead. Then we will be saved and we will have a new life.