



John: Come and See

RECAP:

In the passage of John 1:35-51, John invites us into the very beginning of discipleship, where Jesus meets human longing not with demands, but with an invitation. The sermon opens by exploring how desire shapes our lives - what we pursue, trust, and live for - and highlights Jesus' first recorded words in John's Gospel: "What do you want?" As John the Baptist points to Jesus as the Lamb of God, the first disciples respond by following, discovering that knowing Jesus does not begin with having everything figured out, but with taking a step toward Him. Through encounters with Andrew, Peter, Philip, and Nathanael, we see a consistent pattern: as people follow Jesus, He progressively reveals who He is - Messiah, Son of God, King of Israel. And He invites them into deeper relationship through a simple call: "Come and See."

As the passage unfolds, it shows that following Jesus does not just reveal His identity, it reshapes ours. Jesus renames Simon as Peter, demonstrating His authority to redefine who we are and who we are becoming. Jesus meets Nathanael in his skepticism, revealing divine knowledge and pointing to Himself as the true connection between heaven and earth, the fulfillment of Jacob's ladder. Jesus does not erase human desires but reorders them, offering lasting satisfaction, identity, and purpose that no other pursuit can provide. The message concludes by returning to Jesus' question for every listener: "What do you want?" As we respond to His invitation and continue to follow Him, our restless searching gives way to rest, because Jesus reveals who He is and reshapes who we are.

- 1. Icebreaker:** What is a restaurant, coffee shop, show, or experience that you have discovered is SO good that you immediately started telling other people about it? What made it worth sharing?
- 2. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching;** was there anything you heard for the first time, something that caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?
- 3. Jesus' first recorded words in John's Gospel are a question: "What do you want?"** Why do you think Jesus begins with a question instead of a command or teaching? What does that reveal about how he relates to people?
- 4. Read Psalm 37:4 and Matthew 6:19-21.** How do these passages clarify what Jesus is getting at when He asks, "What do you want?" How do our desires shape the direction of our lives?

5. Jesus renames Simon as Peter in John 1:42. How is Jesus reshaping Simon's identity before Simon ever "earns" it?
6. **Read Isaiah 43:1 and 2 Corinthians 5:17.** What do these verses teach us about how God names and defines His people? Go Deeper: Where do you most need to trust that Jesus sees not only who you are now, but who He is shaping you to become?
7. Jesus sees Nathanael "under the fig tree" (John 1:48), revealing personal knowledge that leads to faith. Where in your life do you most long to be seen and known by God right now? Is there an area where you are tempted to hide instead of bringing it into the light?

8. Read Genesis 28:10-17 (*Jacob's dream at Bethel*) and then re-read John 1:50-51. What similarities do you notice between Jacob's experience and what Jesus promises His disciples? How does Jesus' claim to be the place where heaven and earth meet, deepen your understanding of who He is in John's Gospel?

9. Jesus promises that those who follow Him will see "greater things" (John 1:50-51). What might it look like for you, practically, to keep following Jesus this week? Is there one desire, habit, or expectation that Jesus may be inviting you to reorder as He reshapes who you are?

SUPPORT/PRAYER

(15 min)

Pray for one another in pairs or as a group. Thank God that He sees you, calls you, and invites you to follow. As you follow Jesus, ask Him to reveal more clearly who He is and to reshape who you are. Ask for His help to live as faithful witnesses this week.