

John 1:35 – 51

New American Standard Version

1 Again the next day John was standing with two of his disciples,
2 and he looked at Jesus as He walked, and *said, “Behold, the
3 Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him speak, and they
4 followed Jesus. / And Jesus turned and saw them following, and
5 *said to them, “What do you seek?” They said to Him, “Rabbi
6 (which translated means Teacher), where are You staying?” He
7 *said to them, “Come, and you will see.” So they came and saw
8 where He was staying; and they stayed with Him that day, for it
9 was about the tenth hour. One of the two who heard John *speak*
10 and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He
11 *found first his own brother Simon and *said to him, “We have
12 found the Messiah” (which translated means Christ). He
13 brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are
14 Simon the son of John; you shall be called Cephas” (which is
15 translated Peter). The next day He purposed to go into Galilee,
16 and He *found Philip. And Jesus *said to him, “Follow Me.”
17 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, of the city of Andrew and
18 Peter. Philip *found Nathanael and *said to him, “We have
19 found Him of whom Moses in the Law and *also* the Prophets
20 wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” Nathanael said to
21 him, “Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?” Philip *said
22 to him, “Come and see.” Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him,
23 and *said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is
24 no deceit!” Nathanael *said to Him, “How do You know me?”
25 Jesus answered and said to him, “Before Philip called you,
26 when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael
27 answered Him, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God; You are the
28 King of Israel.” Jesus answered and said to him, “Because I said
29 to you that I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You
30 will see greater things than these.” And He *said to him,
31 “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and
32 the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of
33 Man.”

Read through the entire passage once, then read again and mark the following features:

This passage contains a series of encounters. Some are between disciples (or potential disciples). Some are between Jesus and those disciples. We will look at each of the encounters. What are similarities? What are differences?

Mark the separate / encounters with a diagonal line.

In each scene:

*What **titles** or descriptions are used of Jesus?*

What do the disciples say to Jesus or each other?

What does Jesus say to them?

What do we learn about each of the disciples? Choose a nickname for each of the followers of Jesus in the passage.

What do we learn about Jesus from each encounter?

March 15, 2015

Questions for further thinking

Why does John (the writer) translate three Aramaic or Hebrew words? Who does he expect to be reading this? How does that compare with the earlier references to the Law and Moses and Elijah, etc.?

Look at the verb used for the several encounters: Andrew and Simon, Jesus and Philip, Philip and Nathanael. John used the same word for all three meetings. What (if anything) is the significance?

Why did Jesus rename only one of the men He met? What do you think Simon/Cephas/Peter/Rock and his family and friends thought about the name change?

Why isn't the second disciple (with Andrew at the beginning of the passage) named?

Which disciple had the most to say in response to Jesus? Who had the least to say? How might that difference be surprising?