

“Prologue: Jesus Calls Disciples”

John #3

John 1:35-51

October 15, 2017

Scripture Reading: John 1:35-51

Introduction

- Trajectory: hobbyist > enthusiast > professional
- Problem with much American Christianity: we think of it as a hobby

Big Idea: Jesus doesn't invite hobbyists; Jesus calls people to be and make disciples.

**SCBC Mission statement: Our mission is to glorify God by proclaiming Jesus, receiving grace, being disciples and making disciples.

Disciple

- Greek word μαθητής (mathētēs) — means “to learn”
- 262 times in the New Testament, **all** gospels and Acts
- Discipleship is about trajectory: it's an action word

I. The First Five Disciples | 1:35-37, 40-44

1. Disciple 1 — Andrew
2. Disciple 2 — Unknown
3. Disciple 3 — Simon Peter, Andrew's brother
4. Disciple 4 — Philip
5. Disciple 5 — Nathaniel

R.C.H. Lenski — Involuntarily we ask: “Who was the other of the two? and why is he not also named here?” We know the answer: “The other is John, the Apostle, himself, who never mentions his own name in his Gospel nor the name of any of his relatives.”

II. A Disciple...

1) ...has their primary allegiance to Jesus | 1:35-37

2) ...has to evaluate their desires | 1:38-39

3) ...makes more disciples | 1:40-41

4) ...is named by Jesus | 1:42

- Spurgeon — Christ changes men's names, and changes their natures, too. He can make the most fickle of us to become firm and steadfast.

5) ...sometimes isn't looking for Jesus | 1:43

- C.S. Lewis — You must picture me alone in that room in Magdalen, night after night, feeling, whenever my mind lifted even for a second from my work, the steady, unrelenting approach of Him whom I so earnestly desired not to meet. That which I greatly feared had at last come upon me. In the Trinity Term of 1929 I gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed: perhaps, that night, the most dejected and reluctant convert in all England...The words “compelle intrare,” compel them to come in, have been so abused by wicked men that we shudder at them; but, properly understood, they plumb the depth of the Divine mercy. The hardness of God is kinder than the softness of men, and His compulsion is our liberation.

6) ...knows they're part of something bigger | 1:44-45

7) ...perseveres through opposition | 1:46

8) ...has their life turned inside out by Jesus | 1:47-50

9) ...knows that Jesus is the only way to God | 1:51

- Specific reference to Jacob's dream in Genesis 28
- Ray Ortlund — We're not saying Jesus is one good way among others. We're not even saying he's the best way among others. We're saying he's the only way.

Conclusion

Benediction

1 Corinthians 15:58 — Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.