

Study Guide for January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Come, See and Follow. John 1:35-51.

Introduction: When have you accepted someone's invitation, perhaps a bit skeptically at first, only to later have been pleased beyond your previous expectations or reservations?

I. Conversations that lead to a call.

Compare the account of Jesus' call to the disciples recorded in the synoptic gospels (Matt. 4:18-22 or the parallel account in Mk. 1:16-20 and Luke 5:1-11) with this passage.

- A. What differences do you note?                      What seems to be emphasized in each?
- B. How would you arrange these different accounts chronologically?
- C. What process did you go through in recognizing and responding to Christ's call?

II. Two Committed Companions. John 1:35-39.

- A. How had these two men, as disciples of John the Baptist, been prepared for Jesus?
- B. What do you think they discovered about Jesus in their initial meeting with him?
- C. Did you have a friend with whom you discovered Christ? Describe him or her.

III. The man whose name was changed. John 1:40-42.

- A. What does Andrew do after his overnight encounter with Jesus?
- B. How does Andrew describe Jesus to Simon? What did he know of Jesus' identity?
- C. What significance do you see in Jesus changing Simon's name to Peter?
- D. In what way does the story of Simon's life give hope for change in your life?

IV. The man who followed. John 1:43-44

- A. How might Philip have heard of Jesus? What does this teach us about witnessing?
- B. What does it mean for Jesus to tell Philip, "**Follow me!**" (John 12:26 & 20:19, 22)
- C. Where are you currently experiencing the challenge of "following Jesus"?

V. The man who discovered the One who knows all. John 1:45-51

- A. How does Philip describe Jesus to Nathanael? Why did he use these terms for him?
- B. What is the perception about Nazareth?                      How does Philip address this concern?
- C. How does Jesus address Nathanael?                      How does Nathanael respond to this?
- D. What does Jesus promise Nathanael?                      What might we expect if we follow Jesus?