

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

RECEIVE

Slowly. Prayerfully, read and/or listen to **John 1:35–51** two times. Before and after each reading, pray asking the Spirit of Christ to guide you into knowing and living what you are receiving from the Scriptures. Consider, what does God want you to reflect on and learn from?

REFLECT

- In verses 35–39, two disciples follow Jesus. When he confronts them, they ask questions about his accommodations. They sought information, but Jesus invited them to come, see, and experience. Place yourself on the scene. You are following Jesus and he turns and asks you, "what do you want?" What is your response?
- In verse 43, Jesus changed Phillip's life with two words: "Follow me." Is it easy for you to follow Jesus completely or do you have reservations? If you do, talk to Jesus about any reservations you may have or anything that stops you from fully following Jesus.
- 3. How has Jesus changed your life? Clearly describe the impact Jesus has made in your life. How would you describe this to a stranger?
- 4. In verse 42, Jesus meets Simon and gives him a new name. Jesus calls forth a new identity and Peter receives it. What does the Bible say about our identity?

- 1 Corinthians 6:17
- John 1:12
- 2 Corinthians 5:17
- Ephesians 2:10
- 1 Corinthians 12:27
- 5. The text describes several instances of the disciples pointing people to Jesus. Who are you pointing to Jesus? How are you pointing people to Jesus in different settings? At work, with friends, or with family.
- 6. Nathaniel was surprised that "the One Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote" could be from Nazareth. However, Nathaniel doesn't let his preconceived notions dictate his response to Jesus. How do you react when people don't fit your preconceived notions?

RESPOND

When the disciples found where Jesus was staying, they spent the day with Him. When is the last time you spent the day with Jesus? Plan a mini retreat to spend a day with Him. The Slowing to Hear spiritual retreats are a great way to do this. You can find more information <u>HERE</u>.

This week, continue to reflect on what do you want from Jesus? Talk to Jesus about the deepest desires of your heart, knowing that He will ultimately give you what you need most.

SCRIPTURE

John 1:35–51 New International Version

³⁵ The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶ When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷ When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. ³⁸ Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?" ³⁹ "Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where He was staying, and they spent that day with Him.

It was about four in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. ⁴¹ The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). ⁴² And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter). ⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me." 44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. 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."⁴⁶ "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," said Philip. ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit." ⁴⁸ "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked. Jesus answered. "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹ Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel." ⁵⁰ Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that." ⁵¹ He then added, "Very truly I tell you, you will see 'heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on' the Son of Man."



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