



# DISCUSSION GUIDE

THIS WEEK: *JESUS CHOOSES HIS DISCIPLES [JOHN 1:35-51]*

## GETTING STARTED

What is one thing you are thankful for this week and what is one thing we can pray for you this week?

Remind each other of our simple expectations for meeting together

Describe a time in your life when you were chosen for something (whether it was noteworthy or not)? Why was this important? How did it make you feel? Describe a time you were not chosen, or chose last? How did that make you feel?

## QUICK REACTIONS

- How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?
- What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?
- Did you disagree with something said, or what do you think should have been added or expanded on?

## QUESTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

*Dave said, "Sooner or later when you want to take Jesus seriously, he'll ask you the question: 'What do you want'?"*

1. Why do you think Jesus asks this question? In what ways has He you asked this question? How has your answer shifted, changed, matured over the years?

*Dave said, the selection of the disciples says much more about God, than it does about us.*

2. As you look at the disciples that Jesus chose how do you see this is true? In what way does this free us from the sin and tyranny of comparison, pride, or need to "build a legacy"?

## EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Read John 1:35-51]

Who besides Jesus had disciples? (1:35)

What did John say when he saw Jesus? (1:36)

How did John identify Jesus for his disciples? (1:37)

What did John's disciples do when John identified Jesus? (1:37)

What did Jesus ask John's disciples? (1:38)

What did John's disciples call Jesus? (1:38)

What did John's disciples ask Jesus? (1:38)

What was the first thing Andrew did after he had followed Jesus? (1:40)

Who was Andrew's brother? (1:40)

What did Andrew tell his brother about Jesus? (1:41)

What nickname did Jesus give to Simon? (1:42)  
What words did the author interpret for us? (1:37, 41, 42)  
How did Jesus and Philip meet? What did Jesus say to Philip? (1:43)  
What did Philip do after he followed Jesus? (1:45)  
What did Philip tell Nathanael about Jesus? (1:45)  
Why was Nathanael skeptical that Philip had found the Messiah? (1:46)  
What did Jesus say when he saw Nathanael? (1:47)  
What convinced Nathanael that Jesus was the Son of God? (1:47-50)  
Why was Nathanael surprised? (1:48)  
Why did Nathanael call Jesus the Son of God and the King of Israel? (1:48-49)  
What were the greater things to which Jesus referred? (1:50)  
What did Jesus tell Nathanael he would see? (1:51)  
Who is the Son of Man? (1:51)

## QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT

1. What “convinced” you that Jesus was God? When did you “believe”? In what way is Jesus continuing to ask you “what do you want”? What do you think Jesus “wants”?
2. John the Baptist was an influential religious leader, but once he recognized that Jesus was the Lamb of God, he began to direct disciples (Andrew and John) to follow Jesus instead of him. What lesson can we take from his example in terms of discipleship, being a part of a church?

*Dave said, Jesus did not choose the most mature, or the fully formed, or the highly gifted, rather, the choosing of the disciples points to a much more important idea: how you are chosen. Out of His love, in His mercy and from His abundant grace. (cf. Ephesians 1:5-8)*

3. Based on Jesus’ selection process of the disciples, what does it mean to follow Jesus?
4. Go back to the gospel account and spend some time looking at how John describes Andrew, Peter, Phillip, and Nathanael and the actions they take. What is unique to each of them? What is similar? What disciple do you most identify with and why?
5. John ends the choosing of the disciples by Jesus using biblical imagery from Genesis 28:10-22 for Himself. Read the story then consider in what way is John (i.e. Jesus) helping us to see that Jesus is God?

## APPLY THE PASSAGE

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage?

What may God be asking you to change, do differently, repent of, pray about, as a result of engaging with this passage?

How can we pray for each other?