

## **Come and see**

### **John 1: 35-51**

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There are reasons why every human being wants to be connected to someone. Whether these people are rich or poor; whether they have influence or not; whether they have connections to help us or not, we are the only ones who understands why we want to be connected to such a person. We may need this connections or relations for some few reasons:

1.

1. We need to know who they are and see whether we can gain some benefit from them OR
2. We see them as persons of power to make things happened overnight OR
3. We just wants to know them, not because of benefits, because they are fun to be with OR
4. They may be just neighbours who we see every day or every other day OR
5. May be we care about them and wants to be they friends

Whatever the reason for wanting to connect to them, the question is WHY? What do we want? What would you sacrifice to maintain this relationship?

We are looking today at two(2) characters among Jesus disciples who we were not popular but were hard working persons who wanted to connect to Jesus, stay connected and to help connect other people to Jesus.

- A. The first character to look is Andrew the Networker. He was an initial disciple of John the Baptist. He was a fisherman. Apart from being a fisherman, he was a dedicated follower of John the Baptist. Listening to his words and seeking to find salvation for his soul. He was there when John cried out that "Behold the Lamb of God." All Andrew's life goal was to find the Messiah and connect to Him, to find salvation for His soul. He found Jesus and went to call his family member Peter to come and see.

Many of us in life have this strong desire to get connected to someone who would help us get to where we want to go. Andrew found his connection and followed his heart to meet with Jesus. He heard Jesus speak and was convinced that Jesus was the true Messiah. He did not only need the connection, but was eager to play a part in the ministry of Jesus. So he asks Jesus a question: "Where are You staying?" Andrew did not ask this question for nothing. There was a reason. He wanted to invest in Jesus work by contributing to soul winning. Jesus answered "come and see."

2.

The question I want to pose today is that:

- "Why are you here in church?"
- And why do you want to connect to Christ?"
- Are we here to satisfy our conscience? Or

- We are here because someone made the effort to bring us, and because we do not want to offend them we came to church? Or
- We may be regular church member and if you don't come Pastor Bruce will find out, so here we are? Or
- We are here because we convinced are that Jesus is the Messiah? If you are here because of Jesus, who you seek diligently, then "Come and See" where He lives?

B. The second character is Philip. He was a nobody, in terms of stature. He was minding his business as a fisherman when Jesus called him to follow Him. A humble man, he did not ask questions but rather went to look for his neighbour and friend Nathanael. Christ found him and found his neighbour. He told Nathanael that he has discovered someone that could benefit them, and that person is of influence. So Nathanael should come along. Some of us in church today, have had our lives saved through Christ because someone found us. We are enjoying the beautiful connections we have with Jesus. We are enjoying our connectivity to Jesus whilst our neighbour, if connected, could have some benefits too. But we are denying them this great benefit. Philip was not selfish. He found his friend and neighbour and connected him to Jesus. His neighbour did not believe but pleaded with him and said to him "Come and See." My question is "are we willing to share the connection to Jesus with your neighbour in the office, at home, in the mall or everywhere we find ourselves?"

These 2 characters found a connection: one was eager and sought after it. When he found it he went out to find his family member and ensured that he also connected. Andrew found Peter and told him about the treasure he, Andrew, had found. He got Peter connected and Peter became the ROCK on which Christ built the church. Andrew was least mention in the bible but won a soul for Christ.

The second character did not go find his connection but the connected person found him and gave him opportunity. He did not want to enjoy the opportunity alone. He went to his friend and neighbour, and invited him to come and partake of the connection. Philip found Nathanael and told him about Jesus and the fact that Moses and other prophets of old had spoken about him.

We may be here for a reason. You may be connected to Jesus Christ and enjoying the fellowship. But have we thought about our household and our neighbour close by in the office, in your area, at the mall or elsewhere?

You say:

3.

- a. "How can I tell them?" "And why should I tell them?" The answer is this: We are a missionary on earth. In 2 Corinthians 5:20, we are known as Christ Ambassadors on earth. God put us here for the purpose to do His will. And His will is found in the great commission Mathew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:15.
- b. We may say how can I tell my neighbour about Christ? I have no words. Be eager and selfless. Jesus said in Matthew 10:9 we should not worry about what to say we go and share, because God will give us the right words to say. We can also tell them "Jesus loves you and he died for us all."

- c. But he/she won't listen to me. Our duty is to go and tell the world; Jesus said in John 16:8 that the Holy Spirit would convict them of their sin. Again in Mark 16:16 Jesus said they that believe will be saved and baptised. They that refused would be condemned.
- d. I feel ashamed to go out and share. Jesus said "if you are ashamed of Me before men, I will feel ashamed of you before my father in heaven." Luke 9:26 & Matthew 8:38. But if we lift Him up before men, He will draw all men to Himself. Paul also said we are not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation. Romans 1:16
- e. We are afraid of sharing good news because, when it comes to the bible, others know better than us. Know that God has not given us the spirit but of power, of love, and of sound mind. "2Timothy 1:7. Paul said in 1Timothy 4:12, that Timothy should not allow anyone to despise him. But be example in love, faith, in speech, in conduct and in purity.

So we do not have excuse to go.

In conclusion, the bible says that "...he that wins souls is wise." Proverb 11:30. Jesus said there is joy in heaven over one sinner who repents. Luke 15:7. Our duty is not to sit back and do nothing. Let us go into our communities and tell them "Come and See" the saviour we have found. Amen.