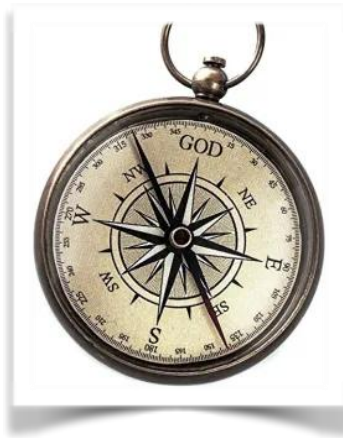


Seeker



John 1:38-39

Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher"), where are you staying?" "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.

Jesus was with God and was God before time began. The reason that He came and stayed with us was to invite us into the God's life, eternal life. This invitation is not a casual dinner invitation at all. There is no religion that God comes to human beings. In all other religions, people should start to search for God and salvation through law and penance. Only in Christianity, salvation comes from God, and it is through faith and free.

In today's scripture, when two disciples of John heard that Jesus is the Messiah, they leave John immediately to follow Jesus. And Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They answered, "Where do you stay?" This question of the two disciples means "Where do you teach your students?" Because at that time, teaching took place in the house of a teacher or a student. So, Jesus invited them to the place of teaching and learning.

Jesus invites all of us. Jesus is already with us and waiting for us to open our hearts. As in Revelation, Jesus is knocking our heart's door. A theologian said that "The climax of seeking God is to seek God who has sought us already." When we look for God, we get to know that we are only found by God. The seeking needs to be a serious and passionate one.

God does not reveal much of Himself to the casual seeker. Oh, He wants to! But God is not a casual God. He passionately gives everything of Himself. God gives us 1000% of God. He holds nothing back. God wants worshippers who will do the same. God makes Himself known to those who diligently seek Him. To the hungry heart He gives His best food and drink. To the one who seeks Him and worshipfully gives the best of their affections to Him, God reveals Himself as Almighty-All-Powerful God, friend, and *affectionate lover*. When we passionately give everything to Him, holding nothing back, incredible intimate relationship with Him is our reward. The passionate seekers find that God already has been seeking them. Here is a beautiful poem.

*I looked for God.
However, later I found out that you are the first person who looked for me.
... I found you and love you. But Lord, my love is the only answer to the love toward me.
You searched for my soul for a long time, and you always loved me.*

Grace and peace,

Pastor Hae-Jeong Yoon