



**“To Guide People of All Generations  
to a Purposeful LIFE with Jesus”**

<b>Instructor:</b>		<b>Date:</b> Sept 27-Oct 3
<b>Course Title:</b> LIFE on Purpose		<b>Lesson #</b> 1
<b>Unit:</b> INVITE on Purpose	<b>Specific Topic:</b> INVITE other to seek Jesus (Personal)	
<b>Background Biblical Text: John 1: 35-51</b>		
<b>Key Verse(s): John 1: 40-42a,45-46</b>		
<p>40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). 42 He brought him to Jesus.</p> <p>45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” 46 Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”</p>		
<b>LEARNING OBJECTIVE</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Students will understand the motivation to invite others to seek Jesus.</li> <li>→ Students will understand how to invite others to seek Jesus.</li> <li>→ Students will identify individuals who need to be invited to seek Jesus.</li> </ul>		
<b>LEARNING READINESS</b>		
<p>Have members share the most important person or notable celebrity they have ever met personally. What were the circumstances of your encounter and who introduced or connected you? (Alternative) Who first introduced you to your spouse? When and how did you meet?</p>		
<b>STUDY/INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES</b>		
<b>Begin the study by reading the Background Passage.</b>		
<p><b>Say:</b> Teachers in the first century often had followers who gathered around them to hear them. The followers were referred to as “disciples” which simply means learners. In a sense, we are all disciples learning from others. In this case, John the Baptist, is with two of his disciples. After seeing Jesus two of them immediately followed Him.</p> <p><b>Ask:</b> What made the two disciples “switch allegiance and start following Jesus?”</p> <p><b>Say:</b> Jesus searches for their motive with a probing question. “What are you seeking?”</p> <p><b>Ask:</b> Is this an important question today? How would most people you know answer this question? How would you answer this question?</p>		

**Personal Notes:**

**Say:** Imagine you were among the group of disciples following Jesus then he specifically called you from among the group. How would you respond?

**Say:** The disciples then go with Jesus to the place he was staying and they continued to learn from him.

**Ask:** What might this indicate about their desire to 'learn'? Do you think they had any idea of their new future? (We may not know what's in our future when we decide to follow...but we must trust the God of the universe.)

**Say:** One of the "new disciples" was Andrew. Andrew seems to have a revelation or deeper understanding of who Jesus' true identity "The Messiah. The Jewish community for centuries was looking for the promised messiah a deliverer of the oppressed people. Based on his understanding and newfound relationship with Jesus. What was Andrew's first action?. (to go get his brother Simon Peter and bring him to Jesus)

**Ask:** What do you make of the exchange between Peter and Jesus at point?

**Say:** Names are very important in the first century. They were indicators of family heritage, societal position or prophetic roles. Jesus renamed Simon to Peter as a statement of Peter's role in the early gathering of Jesus followers. Jesus named him Cephas/Peter which means "rock" in Aramaic. Aramaic was a common language of the people.

**Personal Notes:**

**Activity:** Let's try something together for a minute.. If you encountered Jesus today...what name might he give you as an indication of your role in the church or community of believers? (Make this a fun activity, if you want to mix it up...ask group members to suggest names for one another.)

**Now let's transition to the next section of this passage.**

43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." 44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." 46 Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." 47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" 48 Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." 49 Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" 50 Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." 51 And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

**Say:** In this passage, Jesus “finds” Philip. He gave a simple command “follow me!” Apparently, Philip was from the same town as Andrew and Peter. We see a little contrast from the previous section. The disciples were seeking the messiah and found Jesus. In this passage, Jesus finds Philip.

**Ask:** When you came to know Jesus....Did He find you or were you seeking Him? People come to Jesus a variety of ways. There is no 1(one) way to encounter Jesus, the big question is how we respond when we do.

Philip’s first inclination was to find and tell his brother about Jesus. Look at how he describes Jesus. He referenced the record of Moses and the prophets. Note that Nathanael was a sceptic and challenged Philip’s claims. Look at Philip’s response, “Come and See” What an appropriate response when we invite others who are skeptical about Jesus.

Jesus was aware of Nathanael’s doubts even before they met. (Read John 1: 47-48 again.) Jesus validates who he is by revealing information about Nathanael that no one would know. Nathanael also seems to get immediate revelation about Jesus.

**Ask:** How would this exchange demonstrate Jesus identity and purpose? (Promised Messiah, omniscient – all knowing God, personal and intimate, other )

**Personal Notes:**

**Ask:** Why do you think both Andrew and Philip first went to their brothers to bring them to Jesus? Can you remember when you first found Jesus? Were you eager to tell other people you cared about? Was everyone as excited to meet Jesus as you?

**Ask:** Why do you think Christians (Jesus Followers) are reluctant to invite others to seek Jesus, or even attend Bible study or worship service? How can we overcome the barriers?

**Finally,**

Jesus seems to speak to the disciples gathered around him. The word “you” used in verse 51 is plural. He predicted a future event. “You will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

**Say:** Jesus is identified with 6 different names in this passage. Let’s look at each and discover how they describe Jesus and reveal His the purpose and mission. (<https://thepreachersword.com/2020/10/27/7-names-for-jesus-in-john-1/>)

Jesus – “God is Salvation”

Lamb of God – Perfect Sacrifice for sin

Rabbi - Teacher (presenter of Truth)

Messiah –Christ (chosen one to deliver the people of God)

Son of God – The Father sends the Son to represent the Godhead

King of Israel (King of an invisible/spiritual Kingdom)

Son of Man (Restored Human condition- <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/son-of-man/>)

### **Personal Notes:**

**Say:** Our love for others should motivate and inspire us to invite them to seek Jesus.

We discovered that simply telling others who Jesus is, opens the door to invite. We can invite others to “come and see.” We expose who Jesus is by studying the Word together. As we read and discuss the Bible Jesus person, life and mission become clear. The Spirit of God opens the eyes of seekers.

**Say:** Use a “Friends and Family” Card and write the names of 3-7 family members or friends who are far from God and need to be introduced to Jesus. Begin this week to pray for opportunities to invite them to Jesus. Later in the fall, we will have some “invite” days. **Some people might need your personal influence, list under “Follow Me!” Others may best be reached by encounters at group or worship. List them under “Come and See.”**

### **EVALUATION**

**Ask:** Why did Andrew and Philip share Jesus with their family members? (because they cared about them, they wanted them to see the messiah.)

**Ask:** How can we bring others to Jesus?

**Ask:** Do you know other people in your family or friends who need to come to Jesus?

### **CONCLUSION**

As you close the LIFE Group meeting with one or more of the following questions. (Avoid total closure.)

In our closing minutes, would one of you summarize our Bible study today?

What did you learn from our time together?

Did anyone discover something new?

What is one thing you’re carrying away from the class?

How will you use what they’ve learned during the week?

### **THE ASSIGNMENT**

**Say:** Let's keep our "Friends and Family" Card accessible this week. Take time regularly to pray for the names you've listed. Seek opportunities to speak with them about Jesus. Plan to invite them to LIFE Group or Worship service on INVITE days later this fall.

To get ready for next week's group meeting... Observe individuals in our church or community. Consider the question about each... "Does this person know Jesus?"

### **MATERIALS NEEDED**

*Friends and Family* Card, Pens or pencils

### **Notes and Comments**

[http://www.jesuswalk.com/john/03\\_disciples.htm](http://www.jesuswalk.com/john/03_disciples.htm)

<https://thepreachersword.com/2020/10/27/7-names-for-jesus-in-john-1/>

<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/son-of-man/>

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

<sup>35</sup> The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup> He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus<sup>Ⓜ</sup> was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). <sup>42</sup> He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter<sup>Ⓜ</sup>).

<sup>43</sup> The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." <sup>44</sup> Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." <sup>46</sup> Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup> Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup> Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." <sup>49</sup> Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup> Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup> And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you,<sup>Ⓜ</sup> you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

# LIFE ON purpose

Lesson # 1

Unit: INVITE on Purpose

Date: Sept 27 – Oct 3

Topic: Invite others to seek God

**Background Biblical Text:** John:1:35-51

**Key Verse(s):** John 1: 40-42, 45

40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

41 He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). 42 He brought him to Jesus.

45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

**What is a disciple? How did Jesus "gather" his followers in the study passage?**

Andrew told his brother Peter about Jesus.

Philip invited his brother "Nathanael to Come and See" Jesus?

**How do these names of Jesus describe his person, purpose and mission?**

Jesus

Lamb of God

Rabbi

Messiah

Son of God

King of Israel

Son of Man

**Complete the Friends and Family Card. Pray for the names you list this week.**

## References

[http://www.jesuswalk.com/john/03\\_disciples.htm](http://www.jesuswalk.com/john/03_disciples.htm)

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Follow Me!

Come and See!

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