



Week of January 19, 2020

John 1:29-42 (NRSV)

²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'

³¹ I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel."

³² And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.

³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'

³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,

³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"

³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?"

³⁹ He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

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

⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed).

⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).



Group Leader

Remember: you don't need to use all of the questions. Go with what works. Give people a chance to think before answering, but if a question falls flat, move on. Let the discussion go where it needs to go, as long as it remains centered around the lesson. Give the participants page 1. Use this page for yourself.

Gathering questions:

- A. What was the first thing you knew about yourself that was "special" or "unique"?
- B. If you were asked to describe yourself with three adjectives, what would they be? If your best friends were asked to do the same for you, would they be the same adjectives?

Bible Study Questions:

1. In verse 29, "sin" is singular. What do you think is the definition of sin? Why do you think John has it in the singular?
2. All the passage says is that two of John's disciples followed Jesus, spent the day with him, and then Andrew tells his brother that he has found the Messiah. What do you think Jesus said to them? Imagine yourself as one of John's disciples – what questions would you have had for Jesus?
3. In verse 38 Jesus asks the two who are following him, "what are you looking for?" If Jesus asked that question of you with regard to why you are following him, what would your answer be?
4. In verse 38, why do you think the disciples asked, "where are you staying?"
5. Jesus renamed Simon as Peter ("rock"). If Jesus renamed you, what do you think your name would be?
6. What have you learned about yourself through your faith?
7. What forces have tried to draw you away from being who you are? How can you be true to your identity?

Closing prayer: particularly invite prayers about finding your identity and being true to it