**1. Motivate**

What’s the nicest thing a neighbor has done for you?

* mowed my lawn
* given me a ride to the doctor/airport/store

A video introduction to the lesson is available. View at <https://watch.liberty.edu/media/t/1_rkrcop74> If you have no wi-fi where you teach, best to download to your computer from <https://tinyurl.com/mpf5332f>

* prayed for me
* helped me move in
* took me to church
* lead me to Christ
* helped me get my spouse home from the hospital
* let me access his generator when the power went out
* took my kids fishing with his kids
* acted as a substitute grandpa/grandma for our kids

**2. Transition**

**3. Bible Study**

3.1 Tell of Your Experience with Jesus

Listen for who pointed someone to Jesus.

John 1:40 – 42 (NIV)Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ). 42And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas” (which, when translated, is Peter).

What was the first thing Andrew did after he had followed Jesus?

* went and found his brother Simon Peter
* told him “we have found the Messiah (the Christ)
* brought him to Jesus
* note there was no sales pitch, no debate
* a simple declaration and invitation

Who is the first person you remember telling you about Jesus?

* a parent
* someone visited your home
* a Sunday School teacher
* a friend, a neighbor
* a special speaker, revival preacher, pastor, youth pastor
* a camp counselor

Who is someone in your circle of friends, acquaintances, family that you could bring to Jesus like Andrew brought his brother?

* a family member
* fellow worker
* person you do business with
* a restaurant server
* neighbor

Verse 30 says that Andrew “followed” Jesus. What does it mean to follow Jesus?

* more than just tag along after him to watch what happened
* meant that Andrew chose to be with Jesus, to be under his teaching and influence
* learn what Jesus had to say
* apply Jesus’ teachings to his life
* become a witness to what Jesus did and why

What hinders us from following Jesus in that way?

* not yet convinced that Jesus has something to say to me
* not willing to allow someone else’s opinions to affect my beliefs
* don’t see Jesus’ teachings to be Truth for me
* other distractions – my job, my material possessions, other interests
* confusion in my life, unable to understand Jesus teachings and ministry

Note that we know little about Andrew …

* mentioned only a few times …
* only 3 times in John’s Gospel
* each time he was *introducing someone to Jesus* !!

Peter became a major “player” in the spread of the gospel message

* his brother, Andrew, played an important role in that ministry
* he brought Peter to Jesus

⇨ God calls us not to be major players … rather to bring people to Jesus

3.2 Invite People to “Come and See” Jesus

Listen for how people were invited.

John 1:43 – 46 (NIV) The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, “Follow me.”44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. 45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” 46 “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked. “Come and see,” said Philip.

What action did Jesus model in verse 43?

* search for, found Philip
* invited, challenged Philip to follow Him

How did Philip follow the model of Jesus?

* searched for, found Nathanael
* identified who Jesus was – fulfilment of prophecy
* identified Jesus by name
* invited him to come and see Jesus

Nathanael was skeptical about someone from Nazareth. What about Christ stirs skepticism today?

* just a teacher, a good man, ended up a martyr
* only a myth that He was born to a virgin
* only a myth that He was risen from the dead
* ended up fooling a lot of people
* so called “miracles” were stories that have grown with the telling – more myths
* said He would come back, but it’s been *2000 years*

Stereotypes are firmly held assumptions based on

* generalizations (whether true or not),
* limited interactions with a person or group,
* even hearsay.

What stereotypes about *Christians* hinder people from trusting Jesus today?

* Christians are always bickering among themselves
* all they do is declare do’s and don’ts of their religion
* they are not always loving, in fact they can be downright hateful
* narrow minded attitudes
* “Christians refuse to believe in scientific facts”
* the church is full of hypocrites … don’t act according to what they claim to be

What can we do to overcome skepticism or stereotypes about our faith?

* know what you believe
* read and meditate on God’s word often … daily
* communicate with God
* listen, heed what He says (in His Word),
* talk to Him – more than just read through your list of sick people
* declare your thanksgiving, your worship
* declare to God your faith in His power, authority, and love
* ask God to be working in your life so you demonstrate the Fruit of the Spirit … love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control
* then what you claim will be demonstrated in how you live

3.3 Trust God to Work in Hearts

Listen for how Jesus convinced Nathanael.

John 1:47 – 49 (NIV) 47 When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.” 48 “How do you know me?” Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.” 49 Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.”

What convinced Nathanael that Jesus *was* indeed the Messiah?

* Jesus observed and told Nathanael he was a “true Israelite”, not a fake
* Jesus declared that he had seen Nathanael sitting under the tree when Philip called him
* Nathanael realized that Jesus had knowledge, understanding, and insight beyond the normal man

What convinced *you* that Jesus was the Son of God?

* study of Scripture
* starting with Bible stories as a child
* continued with hearing and applying preaching and teaching of God’s Word
* personal reading and meditating on God’s Truth

What titles did Nathanael declare about who Jesus is?

* Rabbi (teacher)
* Son of God
* King of Israel

How can Jesus’ identity as the Son of God inspire your confidence in Him?

* what He said/says is Truth to be believed
* it is not just “a truth” it is “The Truth” … applies for all times, every situation, every person
* Jesus is in charge – wants to be King in my life
* has the power and authority to rule effectively
* has the love to rule in what is best for me

When we know Jesus this way, how does that enable us to be more ready to invite people to “come see Jesus”?

* we are satisfied and convinced “customers”
* our personal experience bears out the fact that Jesus is Who He claims to be and can be trusted
* we are convinced Jesus is worth knowing, worthy of receiving our trust
* we know people will not be disappointed when they meet and receive Jesus as Savior

Use the last page as a handout so your learners can take home the application points of this week’s lesson.

Use the last page as a handout so your learners can take home the application points of this week’s lesson.

Application

Trust.

* What holds you back from sharing Christ?
* Pray and ask God to make your faith in Him greater than your fears.

Invite.

* With the same “come and see” mindset seen in both Andrew and Philip, invite friends to come with you to your Bible study group.
* Your group can provide a non-threatening way to “come and see” Jesus as your group discussed God’s Word.

Share.

* Draw three circles and make a list of people God has put in your life.
* In the first circle, include your closest relationships.
* In the second circle, write a list of your friends and co-workers.
* In the third circle include acquaintances or neighbors you don’t know well.
* Who in those circles does the Lord want you to reach with the gospel?

ISRAELITE
JESUS
JOHN
KNOW
LAW
LEAVE
MESSIAH
MOSES
NATHANAEL
NAZARETH
NEXT
NOTHING
PETER
PHILIP
PROPHETS
RABBI
SIMON
STILL
TOWN
TREE
TRUE
TRUTH
UNDER



Humph! Covid might still be hanging around. This week I’m masking up. Listen, people … we’ve got to find these words. Spiros the Spy says there could be a secret message hidden in the grid. Humph, I think he’s full of beans. Remember the words go in all directions. Don’t forget your book reports. Help and that Crossword Puzzle (for the ladies over in the corner) is available at <https://tinyurl.com/mpf5332f>

ANDREW
ANGELS
ANYTHING
ASCENDING
BEFORE
BELIEVE
BETHSAIDA
BROTHER
BROUGHT
CEPHAS
CHRIST
DAY
DECIDED
DESCENDING
FALSE
FIG
FIND
FOLLOW
FOLLOWED
GALILEE
GOOD
GREATER
HEARD
HEAVEN

Word Search