



LOOKING FOR THE MESSIAH

January 14, 2018 John 1: 35-42 (43-51) & 1 Sam 3: 3b-10, 19

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Drawings with permission by Fr. Robert Beck

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ENTERING THE SCENE:

John's gospel is the only one that tells people to follow Jesus not himself. Thanks to John, we are pointed in the right direction. Very quickly, the word spreads and before long the gathering of apostles begins. It was through one person inviting another that people are drawn to Jesus and his message. As this new liturgical year unfolds, we also are invited to come and see, and then share what we have seen. What plans have you made to "see" more, and what ways do you envision that will help to invite others to see what you have found?

John 1: 35-42 (43-21) Revised Common Lectionary

35 The next day John was there again with two of his **disciples**. 36 When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the **Lamb of God!**" 37 When the two **disciples** heard him say this, they followed Jesus. 38 Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "**What do you want?**" They said, "**Rabbi**" (which means Teacher), "where are you **staying?**" 39 **Come,** he replied, "**and you will see.**" So they went and saw where he was staying, and spent that day

with him. It was about the **tenth hour**. 40 **Andrew**, **Simon Peter's** brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41 The first thing **Andrew** did was to find his brother **Simon** and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). 42 And 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**).

43 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**. 47 When Jesus saw **Nathanael** approaching, he said of him, "Here is a true **Israelite**, in whom there is nothing false." 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." 50 Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the **fig tree**. You shall see greater things than that." 51 He then added, "I tell you the truth, you shall see **heaven** open, and the **angels** of God ascending and descending on the **Son of Man**."

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Jesus' first followers were people who saw him as the one they waited for and then quickly invited others to join them in following. Who invited you to follow Jesus, and who have you invited?

PRAYER: Lord, you invite me to come and I will see. But first I have to overcome the fears that I have learned from others. Thank you for sending me someone along the way that invited me to share what they had found in faith. To them I owe everything. Help me now to be alert to ways that my life and example become examples of invitation for others. Help me to live in a way that others ask me "where are you coming from? How did you get your faith?" Amen.