

Title: Hallelujah, I Have Found Him  
Text: John 1:35-39

Take your Bibles and let's turn to John chapter 1. There are notes in your bulletin and I invite you to use them as we study the Word of God.

Verses 35 through the end of the chapter deal with the calling of the disciples. This is an exciting part of God's Word. These men were called by Jesus. They left what they were doing and followed the lord. And the exciting thing, here, is that Jesus took common everyday people and just transformed their lives. Men who were really quite human. Men who followed Jesus for three years. Yet, in a time of crisis they forsook Him. They all ran away and hid.

Now, I ask you a question. When did they get saved? When did they really come to know Christ as their Lord and Savior?

The answer is found here in John chapter 1. It is, here, that they got saved. But, they go through a period of growth. Just like you and I. We all go through a period of spiritual growth. Some people grow an all full lot. They just become mature believers in a short period of time. Yet, others grow very little in their spiritual life. But, anyway, here in John chapter 1:35-51, we are going to learn about the conversion of the disciples. How they got saved. And how they came to know Jesus. We are going to look at <sup>two</sup> ~~one~~ disciple today. And next week we will consider the remainder.

John chapter 1 beginning with Vs. 35. (Read Vs 35-<sup>39</sup>40)

(Prayer)

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A few moments ago we sang the hymn: "Satisfied." Do you remember how the chorus goes? "Hallelujah; I have found him, whom my soul so long has craved." Oh, the excitement that comes to folks when they find Jesus. And how their lives are literally changed. That is what I want you to see this morning.

(2B) Now, we are looking<sup>at</sup> the record of Jesus' manifestations. That is how Jesus proves to the world that He really is God.

(1C) Last week we begin with the acknowledgement of Jesus by John the Baptist. Today and next week we will look (2C) at the method which Jesus used to make Himself known to those men who would become His disciples.

(1D) First of all, we come to Andrew and John.

Now, John is not named. But, he is the one that is always unnamed in this fourth Gospel. The apostle John is the one who wrote this fourth Gospel. And he is the one who is unnamed. Vs 40 says: "One of the two who heard John (that is John the Baptist ) speak, and followed him was Andrew. And of course the other one is unnamed, which tells us it is the disciple John.

(1E) Now, let me ask you a question. Why did Andrew and John follow Jesus? What was their reason? If you study this carefully, the reason they followed Jesus was because of the preaching of John the Baptist. They had heard John preach. They were followers of John the Baptist. That is very clear from Vs 35 which says: "two of the disciples of John the Baptist." And those two were Andrews and John. This means that they were part of those wired ones who went down to the river Jordan and heard this man preach. And they believed that He was telling the truth. Thus, they had been baptized by John the Baptist, And <sup>They</sup> ~~the~~ believed that John's message was correct. That the messiah was soon to come. And so they were ready. And when John pointed out Jesus and said: "Behold! The lamb of God." These two men, John and Andrew were ready to follow Jesus.

Now, according to the Bible, John had a brother whose name was James. And these two boys were known as the "SONS OF THUNDER." In other words, these boys had out going personalities. They were loud Jewival delickant. And that is why it is thrilling to learn about John and James. Because Jesus totally changed their lives. He just turned them around.

James and John were the two whose mother wanted Jesus to give them special favors when He established his kingdom. They were, also, the ones who came to Jesus on a certain occasion and said, “Hay, why don’t you zap these people. I mean baring fire down from heaven and wipe them out.” That was their methodology.

But, I want to tell you, dear friends, when John started following Jesus, his whole life was turned upside down. And John became the beloved disciple. Jesus changed his whole life. <sup>why?</sup>

And he can do the same thing for you. It is thrilling how Jesus takes a person and changes his whole direction and motivation and outlook,

I have had the joy of seeing many different people come to know Jesus. And I have watched how their lives have been changed. It is fantastic.

I remember one young man coming to Christ. The guy had a temper and thus had a hard time getting along with people. But, now he just loves folks. One day he said to me. “Pastor, it just drives me crazy. I never liked people. I never like to be around to many people all at once. But, now I do. The more people the better. I don’t understand?”

Well, I do. Jesus changed his life. Old things passed away. All things became new. Isn’t it thrilling to see people, who have come to Christ, change? Isn’t great to see their joy? And to see how Jesus is working in their life? What a blessing.

Well, God did this to John and Andrew. He turned them upside down. But, it came through the ministry of John the Baptist. They believed and accepted his message, which according to Vs 36, is that simple message: “The Lamb of god which takes away the sin of the word.”

(2E) A second thing that I want you to notice in Vs 38 is the question Jesus ask those two men.

When Jesus saw them following Him, he turned to them and said: “Hi guys! Good to see you.

Let’s go some where and have a cup of coffee.”



No way! What did ~~He~~ <sup>Jesus</sup> say to them in Vs 38? He ask, "WHAT DO YOU SEEK." What do you seek? In other words, what are you looking for? That, to me, is a very searching question because so many people follow Jesus for selfish motives. The crowds followed Jesus because they were feed the loaves and fishes. Some followed Jesus because they saw his miracles.

WHAT DO YOU SEEK? ~~I mean, what do you want from me.~~ <sup>Why are you here this morning?</sup> What are you looking for?

Now, I would like to suggest that the thing that you should be looking for is JESUS. You know, <sup>dear friends</sup> it is possible for a believer to loss sight of this basic issue. WHAT ARE YOU SEEKING?

David, in the O.T. during a time of great need said that his goal was to "seek after God." There was <sup>the</sup> ~~only one~~ thing that he wanted in life. And that was to be with the Lord and to learn about Him.

Oh, my dear Christian friends, have we lost sight of that truth? What are we seeking in our life? Now, that we know the Lord, what do we want? <sup>what is our vision? what is the vision of ministry that you have in the church?</sup> [We all realize that God has left us on earth for a certain period of time. How much time only He knows. So, what are we doing with the time that God ahs given to us. <sup>what is our vision for ministry in this church?</sup>

~~I believe with all my heart that Jesus wants us all to seek him.~~

Let me suggest a place to start.

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go with you. THAT, DEAR FRIENDS, IS A WONDERFUL PRINCIPLE.

In Acts 4, the Sanhedrian looked at Peter and John who had no education, unlearned men, and they concluded that they had been with Jesus.

I don't know where you are as a believer in your spiritual life, but I want to tell you one thing: the way to have a powerful and an effective Christian life is by being with the Lord. Not being busy in a thousand things, by which that business becomes a substitution for knowing Jesus and being with him. But, spending some time with Him in Bible study and prayer and worship. Dear friends, knowing Christ is what it is all about.

WHAT DO YOU SEEK? I trust your answer is KNOWING <sup>more about Jesus</sup> JESUS.

This desire will grow so that your love for Him will control you. And you would rather spend time in the Word of God, in prayer, in worship, then do a host of <sup>father</sup> activities.

It is like a life that is turned upside down. A life that once thought, "Well, it is kind of a hazel, but I guess I should study the bible." That attitude is replaced with a joy and excitement in doing the things of the Lord. A life that is spent with Jesus. And dear friends, it can happen in your life. Jesus can turn you upside down. Just change you all around.

What do you seek? Andrew and John said, "Hay! we just want to be with you. That is all we want."

(4E) Then fourth, vs 39, notice the response of Jesus. This is beautiful. Jesus said, “Come and see.” Come and see where I am staying.” They came therefore and saw where he was staying; and they stayed with him that day, for it was the tenth hour.” And what a day that must have been. Do you know what excited me about that day? The change that must have taken place in their lives. People like to comment about Andrew and how he goes and finds his brother. But, do you know why he really went? Because he spent time with Jesus. That is why he went.

Dear friends, Jesus is in the change business. He changes people, churches, organizations. In fact, I would like to say that if in your attitude you are not changing, then you are not growing spiritual as a Christian. Jesus changes people. Old things pass away. All things become new. That is called spiritual growth.

Something else, here, that I want you to see. Andrew spent time with Jesus. And then what did he do? He went to his brother. Do you understand? It was the natural thing to do.

Notice, the priority. He spent time with Jesus. Then the very first thing that he did was to Get someone, else, to spend time with Jesus. That really thrilled me.

Jesus said: “Come and see.” And so they stayed with him all day. Andrew, of course, was a committed disciple in terms of bring people to the lord. But, think of John. How his life was changed. He became the beloved disciple. He took care of the mother of Jesus. He wrote this wonderful fourth Gospel. His life was changed from a rebellious teenage to a mighty man of God. WHY? Because he spent time with Jesus.

Do you want to know the Lord? Do you want the lord to change you? Do you want the lord to change this church? Then spend time with Jesus. Jesus is in the changing business.

Let's Close With Prayer .