

## **Jesus Apprentice; Philip**

**John 1:43-44**

Introduction: Would agree that our nation and world at large is suffering from a lack of true leadership? As I meditated on this a follow up question naturally came to mind; what does it take to be a true leader? A conversation could be continued for hours on the topic, but to break it down to some very obvious characteristics that I feel most sincere people would agree on are this. A leader must first be someone who knows how to follow! The biblical account of Jesus and His disciples is nothing more than Gods way of communicating leadership through mentorship that results in commissioning new leaders. The Son of God Himself modeled the method of leadership which we have renamed discipleship; for the Church to see and follow. Jesus established it as the foundation for sharing the gospel and leading others to Himself as their Lord and Savior. In my opinion one of the better examples of leadership and discipleship is John's account of Jesus calling Philip. This morning let's look at this account. (ad lib if led)

### **I. Philips call is a personal reflection to every believer.**

#### **A. Came from Jesus Himself**

1. John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

#### **B. Was specific to Philip**

#### **C. Was unmistakable**

Andrew, John, Peter and we will learn James were led to the Lord by others while Philip was personally called by Jesus. Each one had one thing in common, as do all believers today, no one comes to Jesus unless and until God calls them, either personally through Jesus or through the work of evangelism of a disciple.

### **II. Philips concern should be shared by every believer.**

#### **A. Was directed from Jesus**

#### **B. Was focused on a godly priority**

#### **C. Always involved bringing others to salvation**

Conclusion: The testimony of Philip and the many who are like him should cause us to examine ourselves! What can you testify about your call? Do you really know that Jesus was tugging on your heart, calling you to follow Him? Do you really know Jesus was calling you without any doubts? After you confessed and called out to Jesus for salvation was your life directed by Jesus; and is it still being directed by Him today? Are your priorities focused today? Are you really concerned about the salvation of others? These are all very specific questions that come from these two little verses in John's gospel about the disciple Philip. What do they say to you this morning? As our musicians come with a hymn of invitation I want to ask you to examine your life, your priorities and your devotion and dedication to the Lord. Is your focus on the Lord's work and His will? Jesus isn't asking for the leftovers of the material world, He is asking for you; does He have you? Being Christian is not about appeasing others, it is not about picking winners and losers within the congregation, it isn't about doing what the majority ask for. It is exclusively about serving the Lord and following Him by His written word and the direction of His holy spirit. Are you the follower Jesus has called you to be? Are you the leader God wants you to be? While we sing will you come!