



his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. / And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone!”

5. From What We Just Read:

- John The Baptist:

- Had Prepared These Two Men Well:

- Who Then “Decided To Follow Jesus!”

- And - Clearly - God Himself:

- Had Prepared The Soils Of Their Hearts:

- To Receive The Message That Jesus Is “The Lamb Of God!”

- And - I Believe:

- Through These Verses:

- We Can Learn - Not Only:

- What It **Means**:

- To Follow Jesus!

- But Also - What It **Takes**:

- To Follow Jesus:

- When You Believe In Him & The Truth About Him!

6. And - This Is Relevant For Us Today:

- Because - All Too Often:

- We Forget What It Means:

- To Be A Follower Of Jesus Christ!

- To Follow Jesus:

- Of Course - Begins With:

- Faith & Belief In Christ!

- But - It Is A:

- Decisive Faith & A Decisive Belief That:

- God Intends To:

- Transform Your Life!

- So - What Does It Mean - And:

- What Does It Take:

- To Follow Jesus?

\* First - It Will Take:

1. ***A Commitment To Christ!***

- Even - A Decisive Commitment To Christ:

- Which Is What We Find In The Lives Of:

- These Two Followers:

- Of John The Baptist!

- In 1:35-37 - “Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples; / And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God! / And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus!”

- The Commitment Of These Two Men:

- To Follow Jesus:

- Was Based On The Powerful Witness:

- Of John The Baptist:

- About Jesus!

- The Previous Day:

- John Pointed To Jesus - And:

- With:

- A Public Proclamation:

- Declared That He Was:

- “The Lamb Of God, Which Taketh Away The Sin Of The World!”

- And - More Than Likely - These Two Men:

- Were In The Crowd:

- And Heard And Listened To:

- The Message Of John!

- All Throughout That Day & Night:

- They Probably Pondered:
  - Just What John Meant With Those Words!
- Not Just About:
  - His Nature As:
    - The Lamb Of God!
- But - Especially About:
  - Their Need:
    - To Have Their Sins Taken Away!
- And So - When The Next Day Came:
  - They Went To John Again:
    - To Talk With Him About His Message!
    - **IE:** Which Is A Good Practice!
- But This Time:
  - As John Was With These Two Men:
    - He Saw Jesus Again:
    - And Made:
- A Private Proclamation:
  - To Those Disciples - With The Same Message!
    - “Behold!”
      - Look, Men! Look, My Followers & Friends!
    - “That One Is - The Lamb Of God!”
  - And So - They **Did** Look!
    - And - Along With That Look:
      - They **Believed** What John Said:
        - About Him!
  - And - Even Though:
    - At That Point:
      - They Had Still Much To Learn:
        - About Jesus!
    - They Made A Decisive Commitment:
      - To Take Action:
        - On What They Had Learned From John!
- And So - They “Followed Jesus!”
  - This Is Still What It Means:
    - And -This Is Still What It Takes:
      - To Follow Jesus!
  - A Decisive Faith In - And:
    - Commitment To:
      - Jesus Christ! Both:
        - Who He Is & What He Came To Do!
- Now - This Doesn’t Mean That:
  - You Know Everything There Is To Know About Jesus:
    - At First - But You Do Know:
      - That In Christ:
        - You Can Find Forgiveness For Your Sin & Rest For Your Soul!
  - And So - Commit Yourself:
    - To Him - Come What May!
    - But Then:

\* Second - To Follow Jesus - It Will Also Take:

## 2. ***A Communion With Christ!***

- Which Is What We Find:
  - In 1:38-39 - “Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou? / He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour!”
    - The Questions In Verse 38:
      - Have Puzzled Many!

- But - I Believe What We Find Here Is:
  - That The Two Men Who Followed Jesus:
    - Had So Many Questions:
      - In Their Own Minds & Hearts:
        - That They Just Hoped Jesus Could Help Answer Them!
- And This Was The Start Of:
  - A Special Communion With Christ:
    - That Grew Deeper Than They Would Have Ever Thought Possible!
  - And This Communion:
    - All Started With & Was Based On:
      - The Gracious Welcome Of Christ!
- Because The Question Jesus Asked:
  - Though Brief - Was:
    - With A Very Penetrating Word!
      - “What Seek Ye?” - He Asked!
        - Not Just - “Why Are You Following Me?”
          - **IE**: Like A Couple Of Stalkers!
        - But - “What Are You Looking For?”
          - And - “What Do You Think You’ll Find By Following Me?”
- These Two Men:
  - Probably Had Been Thinking About:
    - This Same Question In Their Own Hearts:
      - For Some Time!
- After All:
  - They Had Left Their Homes & Jobs:
    - In Galilee - Just To Hear John The Baptist:
      - Preach - “Repent Ye, For The Kingdom Of Heaven Is At Hand!”
- Their Hearts Were Already Full:
  - Of This Searching, Penetrating Question!
    - “What **Are** We Seeking?”
      - In Our Minds / Hearts / Souls!
        - What Is Our Purpose? What Is Our Future?
- So - They Didn’t Quite Know:
  - How To Answer Jesus’ Question!
    - So Instead - They Ask Him:
      - “Where Dwellst Thou?”
    - Maybe **He** Could Help Them:
      - With What They Were Seeking & Searching For!
- And This Led To Christ Answering Their Question:
  - With A Very Patient Word:
    - That Continues To Echo Down:
      - Even Through Today!
        - 1:39 - “Come And See!”
    - This Was A Personal Invitation:
      - From Jesus:
        - So That - Not Only:
          - Would They See Where He Was Staying:
            - For Future Reference!
        - But That - He **Would** Help Them:
          - With What They Needed Most!
    - So - 1:39 - They Accepted The Invitation Of Jesus:
      - And - “They Came And Saw Where He Dwelt!”
        - Now - We’re Not Told Much About:
          - Where Jesus Was Staying!
        - Because - At That Point:
          - The Place Didn’t Matter!
            - The Person Did!
    - Note The Next Words:

- 1:39 - “And Abode With Him That Day!”
  - And - What A Day That Must Have Been!
- To Listen To & Learn From:
  - Jesus - The Lamb Of God:
    - Which Taketh Away The Sin Of The World!
- At First – They Didn’t Know What They Would Find:
  - When They “Came & Saw” Where Jesus:
    - Was “Dwelling” - In That Wilderness:
      - Beyond The Jordan River!
- But - When They Got There:
  - They Were Content:
    - To Remain With Him:
      - Even Though It Was Getting Late!
    - “About The Tenth Hour!”
      - Probably Around 4pm!
- They Were Content:
  - To Be With Jesus - And:
    - Jesus Was Content:
      - To Be With Him!
- And This Too:
  - Is What It Means & What It Takes:
    - To Follow Jesus!
  - A Personal Desire:
    - For Close, Personal Communion & Fellowship:
      - With Jesus Christ!
  - When There Is Not:
    - This Kind Of Communion & Fellowship:
      - It’s Not Because Of Jesus!
    - When These Men Started Following Him:
      - Jesus Urged Them To:
        - Keep Coming! Keep Following!
  - And - So He Does With You!
    - He Asks - “Will You Also Go Away?”
      - Don’t Turn Back!
        - Because He Alone:
          - Has “The Words Of Eternal Life!” (John 6:67-68)
    - He Says - Don’t Get Weary!
      - “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not!” (Galatians 6:9)
    - He Says - Don’t Become Disillusioned!
      - “Come And See!”
        - And - “Keep Coming And You Will See More Than You Could Ever Imagine!”
- This Is What It Means & This Is What It Takes:
  - To Follow Jesus!
    - A Decisive Commitment To Jesus! And:
    - A Devoted Communion With Jesus!

\* And - Third - To Follow Jesus - Also Means:

### 3. ***A Commission From Christ!***

- Which Is What We Find Next:
  - In 1:40-42a - When We Learn The Name:
    - Of One Of These New Followers Of Jesus!
      - “One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. / He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. / And he brought him to Jesus!”
- So - After Spending Some Time With Jesus:
  - Andrew Went Out To:

- Find His Brother & Bring His Brother:
  - To Jesus!
- And It Was All Based On:
  - The Words Of Christ:
    - That He Heard When He Was With Him!
- And - This Really Should Be:
  - The Most Natural Response:
    - When You Have Fellowship With:
      - Jesus Christ - And:
        - You Hear His Word!
  - Because - Like Andrew:
    - Your Desire Should Be To Share Your Personal:
- Conviction About Christ!
  - Even As He Told His Brother, Simon, In 1:41:
    - “We Have Found The Messiah!”
      - The Anointed One!
        - The “Christ” - In Greek - As The Author Explains To Us!
    - Apparently - This Is What:
      - They Had Been Seeking For:
        - All Along!
  - In Spite Of Being Men Of Great Strength:
    - As Fishermen - Both Andrew & Simon:
      - Were Also Men:
        - Of Great Sensitivity:
          - To The Gospel Of The Kingdom!
    - And - After Hearing:
      - The Witness Of John The Baptist!
    - And - After Receiving:
      - The Welcome Of Jesus Himself!
    - Andrew Was Convinced:
      - That Jesus Is The Christ:
        - The Son Of God!
  - And - Andrew Found His Brother:
    - To Tell Him About Jesus!
      - But - He Was Not The Only One!
        - When - In 1:41 - We Are Told:
          - He “First” Findeth His Brother!
    - Probably A Better Way Of Looking At This:
      - Is Not - It Was The “First” Thing He Did!
    - But - He Was Only The “First” One:
      - To Find Someone Close To Him:
        - To Tell Them About Jesus!
  - The Other Man Did Too!
    - Many Believe That The Other Man:
      - Was John - The Son Of Zebedee:
        - Who Wrote These Very Words!
  - And - As We See All Throughout This Book:
    - He Never Mentions Himself By Name:
      - Even Though He Is Intimately Familiar:
        - With The Details Of The Events:
          - He Wrote About!
    - So - After Andrew:
      - Found Simon:
        - To Tell Him About Jesus!
    - More Than Likely - John Too:
      - Found His Brother, James:
        - To Tell Him About Jesus!
  - Because They Both:

- Had Found Him!
  - “Whom Their Souls So Long Had Craved!”
- But - Then - What Did They Do?
  - They Didn’t Just:
    - **Find** Their Brothers & **Tell** Them About Jesus:
  - Then They - 1:42:
    - **“Brought”** Them To Jesus!
- And - Andrew Did This - Because:
  - He Knew & Experienced First Hand, The:
- Care Of Christ!
  - 1:42 - Andrew “Led” His Brother To Jesus!
  - This May Have Even Been:
    - In Andrew’s Mind:
      - From The Beginning!
    - When He Asked Jesus:
      - 1:38 - “Where Dwellst Thou?”
  - He Didn’t Want To Meet Jesus:
    - And Just Keep It To Himself!
      - He Wanted To Bring:
        - Those Closest To Him:
          - To Christ!
- And This Too:
  - Is What It Means & What It Takes:
    - To Follow Jesus!
  - A Personal Determination:
    - To Respond To Christ’s Commission!
  - To Find Others:
    - As He Found You!
  - To Tell Others:
    - As Others Have Told You! And:
  - To Lead Others:
    - To Jesus - Even As Someone:
      - Once Led You To Christ!
  - Because - In Jesus’ Own Words:
    - “Him That cometh To Me I Will In No Wise Cast Out!” (John 6:37)
- This Is What Jesus Has Called & Commissioned:
  - All Of Us To Do!
    - To Share The Word Of Christ:
      - With Others!
  - The Word Of The Gospel!
    - 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 - “How that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; / And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures!”
  - The Word Of Grace!
    - Colossians 3:16 - “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord!”
  - Are You Determined:
    - As Andrew & John Were Determined:
      - To Bring Someone & Lead Someone:
        - To Jesus?
    - Just Think Of What Jesus Can Do:
      - For & With That Person!
        - Even As He Did With Simon, Andrew’s Brother!
  - F. F. Bruce - “Noone Can Foresee, When He Brings A Man Or Woman To Jesus, What Jesus Will Make Of That Person!”
    - But - Jesus Does!
      - Even As - “Jesus Himself Saw What He Could Make Of Andrews Brother!”
        - Which Leads Us To:





- And This Too:
  - Is What It Means & What It Takes:
    - To Follow Jesus!
  - A Personal Dependence:
    - And Trust In:
      - The Change That Christ:
        - Continues To Make:
          - In Your Heart & Life!
- Depend On The Truths:
  - That Jesus Knows You:
    - Best - Even Better Than:
      - You Know Yourself!
  - And - Jesus Knows:
    - What's Best:
      - For You!
- And That's Why:
  - You Can Be - "Confident Of This Very Thing, That He Which Hath Begun A Good Work In You Will Perform It Until The Day Of Jesus Christ!" (Philippians 1:6)

**Conclusion:**

1. This Is What It Means:
  - To Believe In Jesus:
    - And To Follow Jesus:
      - As These Men Did!
  - And - This Is What:
    - It Will & Should Look Like:
      - In Your Own Life!
    - There Will Be An Ongoing:
      - Commitment To Christ!
      - Communion With Christ!
      - Calling From Christ! And:
      - Change By Christ!
2. Do You See This:
  - In Your Own Walk With The Lord?
    - When Andrew & John:
      - First Followed Jesus:
        - They Had No Idea:
          - Where He Would Take Them!
    - But - They Knew:
      - That As Long As:
        - They Could Abide With Him - And:
          - He Would Abide With Them:
            - No Matter Where He Led Them:
              - They Would Be Content!
  - 3. And You Can Be Too!
    - When You Just Respond To:
      - His Invitation - On A Daily Basis - To:
        - "Come And See!"

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