

**Sermon Notes**  
**08/13/23**  
**The Gospel Of John S2E1**  
**An Invitations To Encounter**

**John 1:35-42**

35 The next day John was there again with two of his disciples.<sup>36</sup> When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"<sup>37</sup> When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus.<sup>38</sup> Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?"<sup>39</sup> "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.<sup>40</sup> Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus.<sup>41</sup> The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ).<sup>42</sup> 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).

- 1. The Power of Invitation.**
- 2. Invitations Lead to Encounters.**

**1. The Power of Invitation**

- John the Baptist John understood the power of invitation.
  - A best one word definition of evangelism is "INVITATION".
  - JTB's invitation was not complex; **look at Jesus.**
- John the Baptist recognized Jesus when he saw him.
  - **Vs. 35** "LOOK" ἐμβλέπω emblépō, em-blep'-o to look on, i.e. (relatively) to observe fixedly, or (absolutely) to discern clearly:—behold, gaze up, look upon.
    - It's useless to invite people to look upon what you can't see yourself.

**2. Invitations Lead to Encounters:**

**Vs. 37-39a** When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?"<sup>39</sup> "Come," he replied, "and you will see."

- **Identify seekers in your life and leave the encountering up to God.**
- Seekers who encounter God often become the most effective inviters.
  - **Vs. 41-42** The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ).<sup>42</sup> 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).

Over three-fourths (75-90%) of all people come to faith through a friend or relative and yet only 5 percent of friends and relatives are ever involved in doing so.

**Practical Takeaways:**

- Turn your eyes upon Jesus.
- Experiment with invitation.

**Application Questions:**

1. Have you ever thought about evangelism just being a simple invitation?
2. Who is someone in your life that you can introduce to Jesus? What practical steps can you take to initiate that introduction?
3. Do you sometimes feel responsible for others encountering Jesus after you invite them to see Jesus? Why would this perhaps be a wrong way to look at this?
4. Pastor Adam said, "It's useless to invite people to look upon what you can't see yourself." What can you do to see Jesus more clearly?
5. Why do you think Jesus asked them what they wanted?