

Sermon Notes
The Gospel of John: S2E2
John 1:43-51

43 The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding (Εὕρισκω) Philip, he said to him, "Follow me." **44** Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. **45** Philip found (Εὕρισκω) Nathanael and told him, "We have found (Εὕρισκω) 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[fn] {The Greek is plural.} shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

The bible describes the revelation of God to mankind and makes the promise that if you seek him, you will find him.

Jeremiah 29:13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.
Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.⁸ For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

- 1. God is a seeking God.**
- 2. God satisfies seekers.**

- 1. God is a seeking God: Vs. 43** The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. **Finding Philip**, he said to him, "Follow me."
 - a. **Εὕρισκω**: Heyriskō—after searching, to find a thing sought.
 - b. **Ezekiel 22:30-31** "I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found no one.
 - i. **Jesus warned Bethsaida: Matt 11:21** "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.
- 2. God Satisfies "SEND ME" Seekers:**
 - a. **Isaiah 6:8** Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"
 - i. **Skepticism is the enemy of discovery: Vs. 45** Philip found (Εὕρισκω) Nathanael and told him, "We have found (Εὕρισκω) 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.

1. Jesus promises greater things to Nathanael: He then added, "I tell you the truth, you^[fn] {The Greek is plural.} shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

a. Jesus promises an open heaven.

Small Group Questions:

1. Jesus found Phillip and Phillip found Nathanael. How can these examples in the above scripture provide a template for the way we bring others to Christ?
2. In verse 46, Nathanael was almost dissuaded from finding Jesus due to his skepticism. Where has skepticism perhaps kept you from seeking and finding?
3. Isaiah 6:8 shows a "send me" seeker, someone who was eager to follow after God and go where he called. Are you a send me seeker, or perhaps do you need to develop more of that?
4. Name some areas where you want to start seeking God. Examples are His presence, peace, power, miracles, love, forgiveness, etc.
5. Jesus promises an open heaven to Nathanael. What could that mean and more importantly, what could it mean to you personally and the way you pursue God?