

Worship Discussion and Reflection Questions

Sermon: *What God Sees*

Scripture: John 1:43-51

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." ⁴⁹Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, ^[m] you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

Reflection Questions:

1. What do you imagine it was like to be Nathanael when he first met Jesus? What would you have thought and felt when He said, "I saw you under the fig tree?"
2. How will you be more available to God this week?
3. What do you think of what Jesus says to Nathanael about being a person "in whom there is no deceit?"
4. Read the account of Jacob's dream at Bethel in Genesis 28. What do you think of Jesus comparing himself to the stairway/ladder connecting heaven and earth?
5. How can Nathanael's encounter with Jesus change how you approach God in prayer?

Guided Prayer:

Pray Psalm 32 this week and ask God to give you a spirit that is free of deceit. Rejoice in how God sees us with eyes of mercy and grace.