

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL · PRINT EDITION

Come and See the King

The Gospel of John: Why Should I Believe? · Week 06 · October 18, 2026

JOHN 1:46 (ESV)

Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”

HOW THIS WORKS

- Five days, Monday through Friday — about ten minutes each. Every day has a prayer to open, a short reading, something to think about, one action step, and a prayer to close.
- This week’s homework runs underneath all five days: name one person and say the words, “*Come and see.*” Invite them to read John with you, to your D-Group, or to sit with you next Sunday.
- Keep a pen with it. The lines are part of the devotional.
- Prefer your phone? The same devotional is online each week at thesummit.life → The Gospel of John → Reading Plan.

THIS WEEK

Sunday we heard the first words Jesus speaks in John’s gospel. They are not a sermon. They are a question: “What are you seeking?” And His first invitation is just as short: “Come and you will see.” This week you will take that one day at a time: the question Jesus asks, the brother Andrew went and got, the two words Philip said to a skeptic, the fig tree where Jesus already knew Nathanael, and the ladder that turns out to be a person.

DAY 1 · MONDAY

What Are You Seeking?

JOHN 1:35–39 · PSALM 63:1

Opening prayer*Lord, before I ask You for anything this week, let me hear the question You are asking me. Amen.*

Read John 1:35–39. John the Baptist points at Jesus one more time: “Behold, the Lamb of God!” Two of his disciples hear it and start walking after Jesus. Jesus turns around. And the first words He speaks in this entire gospel are a question: “What are you seeking?”

He is not asking because He doesn’t know. He knows everything, as Nathanael is about to find out. He asks so they will be honest with themselves. Why are you following Me? What are you actually after?

Be honest with yourself about your own answer. Courtesy: someone asked, and you came. Escape: life is too hard. Protection: trouble is close. Understanding: is Jesus really who Christians say He is? None of those are wrong answers. They are just answers. Jesus wants the true one.

The two disciples don’t answer with a reason. They answer with a question of their own: “Where are you staying?” They weren’t asking for His address. They were asking for time with Him. And Jesus said, “Come and you will see.”

Jesus asks what you are seeking so that you will find Him, not so that He can find out.

Reflect

If Jesus turned around and asked you, “What are you seeking?”, what would the honest answer be today? Write it down. Then write what you want the answer to be by Friday.

Today’s action step

Start this week’s homework today. Think of one person who needs to “come and see” Jesus. Write their name at the top of this page. You will say the words to them before the week is out.

Closing prayer*Jesus, here is the honest answer to Your question. Turn it into a desire for You. Amen.*

DAY 2 · TUESDAY

Brothers Invite Brothers

JOHN 1:40–42 · MATTHEW 16:17–18

Opening prayer*Lord, show me the people You have already put within my reach. Amen.*

Read John 1:40–42. One of the two disciples was Andrew. He spent the rest of that day with Jesus, asking questions and listening. And the first thing he does when the day is over is go find his brother Simon. “We have found the Messiah.” Then four words that describe the whole gospel: “He brought him to Jesus.”

Andrew couldn’t keep it to himself. Nobody in this chapter does. The gospel doesn’t spread through crowds in John 1. It spreads one brother, one friend at a time.

Then Jesus looks at Simon and gives him a new name: Cephas, Peter. Rock. Nothing about Simon was rock-like yet. For the next three years he is impulsive, hot-headed, often foolish, and he will deny Jesus three times. But Jesus wasn’t naming the man in front of Him. He was naming the man He would make.

That should give you hope on two fronts. Jesus does not call people who have it all together. And the person you are afraid to invite because of who they are right now? Jesus sees who they could become.

Jesus names people for who they will become, not for who they are when He finds them.

Reflect

Who brought you to Jesus? Write their name. Then write the name of the person you are most afraid to invite, and what you assume about them that keeps you from it.

Today’s action step

Pray by name today for the person you wrote at the top of Monday’s page. Ask Jesus to show you what He sees in them.

Closing prayer*Jesus, thank You for the one who brought me. Make me an Andrew for someone else. Amen.*

DAY 3 · WEDNESDAY

Come and See

JOHN 1:43–46 · PSALM 34:8

Opening prayer*Lord, give me the courage to invite without needing to win. Amen.*

Read John 1:43–46. Jesus finds Philip and says two words: “Follow me.” Philip does. And then, like Andrew, he goes and finds someone: his friend Nathanael. “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

Nathanael is not impressed. “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” He knew his Bible; the Messiah was supposed to come from Bethlehem. He knew the area; Nazareth was a backwater. His objection was partly good theology and partly plain prejudice. He was right about the text and wrong about Jesus.

Notice what Philip does not do. He doesn’t argue. He doesn’t explain the birth in Bethlehem. He may not have even known about it. He says two words: “Come and see.”

That is the memory verse this week, and it may be the most freeing sentence in the chapter. You do not have to win the debate. You do not have to answer every objection. You just have to make the introduction. Jesus does the rest.

You don’t have to win the argument. You just have to make the introduction.

Reflect

What objection or question do you assume your person would raise? Write it down. Now ask: does Philip’s answer still work for that? Why or why not?

Today’s action step

Say the words today. Call, text, or walk across the street: “Come and see.” Invite them to church Sunday, to your D-Group, or to read John 1 with you this week. If you can’t reach them today, set the time you will.

Closing prayer*Jesus, I will make the introduction. You handle the questions. Amen.*

DAY 4 · THURSDAY

Under the Fig Tree

JOHN 1:47–49 · PSALM 139:1–6

Opening prayer*Lord, You already know everything about me. Let that be a comfort today and not a fear. Amen.*

Read John 1:47–49. Nathanael comes to see for himself, and before he can say a word, Jesus speaks first: “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” Remember Jacob: his name meant deceiver, and he lived up to it until God renamed him Israel. Jesus is saying, here is a true Israel, with none of the Jacob in him. Here is a sincere man.

“How do you know me?” Nathanael asks. And Jesus says, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” We don’t know what Nathanael was doing under that tree. Praying, wrestling, maybe reading about Jacob’s ladder. But Jesus knew. He knew the man and what was stirring in him before Philip ever opened his mouth.

And Nathanael goes from “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” to “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” in a single breath.

Many people believe they have to clean themselves up before they can come to Jesus. This scene ends that. He already saw you under the fig tree. He knows all of it, the sincere and the not-so-sincere, and He still says, “Come.”

Jesus knew you before you came. He still said, “Come.”**Reflect**

What is the thing you assume you would need to fix before you could really come to Jesus, or bring someone else? Read Psalm 139:1–6 and write down what it says about that assumption.

Today’s action step

Read Psalm 139:1–6 out loud today. Then pray for your person the way Jesus saw Nathanael: by name, for what is stirring in them that only God can see.

Closing prayer*Jesus, You saw me under my own fig tree, and You called me anyway. Thank You. Amen.*

DAY 5 · FRIDAY

The Ladder Is a Person

JOHN 1:50–51 · GENESIS 28:10–17

Opening prayer*Jesus, open my eyes to see what Nathanael was promised he would see. Amen.*

Read Genesis 28:10–17, then John 1:50–51. Jacob, the deceiver, running from his brother, lies down with a stone for a pillow and dreams of a ladder set up on the earth with its top reaching heaven, and the angels of God ascending and descending on it. He wakes up and says, “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it.”

Now listen to Jesus’ first “truly, truly” in John’s gospel: “You will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.” He takes Jacob’s dream and puts Himself in the middle of it. The ladder is not a thing. The ladder is a person. Jesus is the one connection between heaven and earth, the only One who came down from heaven, the only mediator between God and men.

And the “you” in that verse is plural. Jesus is talking past Nathanael to everyone who would ever read this. You will see heaven opened. If you are seeking the true reality of Jesus, you are about to watch it happen across this gospel.

Which brings the week back to Monday. What are you seeking? Nathanael came with doubts. Thomas, at the end of the book, came with doubts. Both got the same answer: come and see. And both left saying the same thing: my Lord, my King, my God.

Heaven is open because of Jesus. Come and see — and then go and tell someone.

Reflect

Look back at Monday’s honest answer. Has it changed? And the name at the top of that page: have you said the words yet? If not, what is the real reason?

Today’s action step

If you have not yet said “come and see” to your person, do it today. If you have, pray for them one more time, and then tell someone at Summit on Sunday what happened. If you are the one who has been seeking, and this week you have found Him: tell Him, and then tell someone.

Closing prayer*Son of God, King of Israel, You are the ladder between heaven and earth. I came. I saw. Send me to bring someone else. Amen.***LOOKING AHEAD**

Next Sunday: Week 7 · Water Into Wine · John 2:1–12 · October 25, 2026. Memory verse this week: John 1:46.