

Gospel of John Study Notes

Outline of John 1

- Prologue: John 1:1-18
 - The Word
 - God, Creation, Revelation, and Incarnation
- John the Baptist: John 1:19-34
 - Who John is not: John 1:19-28
 - Witness: John 1:29-34
- Peter and Andrew: John 1:35-42
- Philip and Nathanael: John 1:43-51

The prologue offers a grand introduction to the Gospel of John. The Apostle introduces us to John the Baptist in the middle of chapter 1. Today we'll look at the call of four disciples.

Interwoven into the text, we are presented with terms that describe Jesus as more than a mere teacher. TheBibleProject.com's image summarizes these on the right. Each term is significant. Each is radical.

Peter and Andrew: John 1:35-42

"The next day..." Jesus begins to build his ministry team from what seems to be ordinary men, not the elite.

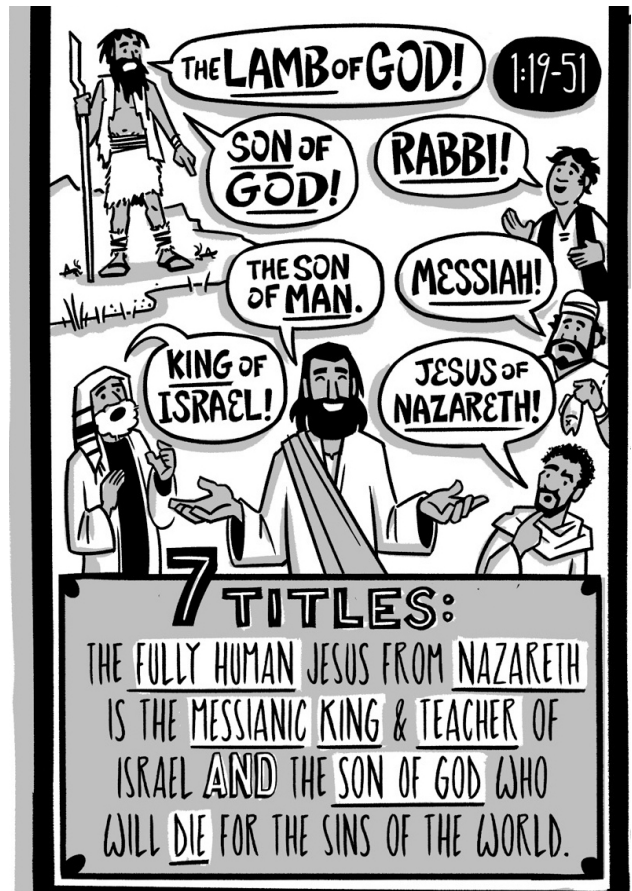
- Two of John's disciples are reminded: "Look, the Lamb of God"
 - Who are the two? Andrew is named, the other is not
 - Andrew tells his brother, Simon Peter, Cephas (so many names!)
- "We have found the Messiah (that is, the Christ)"

Philip and Nathanael: John 1:43-51

"The next day..." Jesus calls Philip who tells Nathanael

- Nathanael declares that Jesus is the Son of God, king of Israel
- Nathanael or Bartholomew? Same?
- Jesus adds, "Son of Man" to the list of terms

For other accounts, read Matthew 4:18-22, Mark 1:16-20, Luke 5:2-11



John 1:35-51

New International Version

John's Disciples Follow Jesus

³⁵ The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶ When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷ When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. ³⁸ Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?" ³⁹ "Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

⁴⁰ Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. ⁴¹ The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). ⁴² 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).

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me."

⁴⁴ Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found 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 truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit." 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 will see greater things than that." ⁵¹ He then added, "Very truly I tell you, you will see 'heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on' the Son of Man."

Deuteronomy 18:14-19

New International Version

The Prophet

¹⁴The nations you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery or divination. But as for you, the LORD your God has not permitted you to do so. ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. ¹⁶For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, “Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die.”

¹⁷The LORD said to me: “What they say is good. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. ¹⁹I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name.

In the series of references shown in the notes below, we are reminded that people were expecting “The Prophet” from Moses’ teaching.

NIV Study Bible Notes, Fully Revised Edition¹

- **18:15** *prophet like me*. See Deuteronomy [34:10](#).
- Verse [16](#), as well as the general context (see especially vv. [20–22](#)), indicate that a series of prophets is meant. At Horeb (Mount Sinai) the people requested that Moses take the message from God and deliver it to them (see [Ex 20:19](#) and note).
- But now that Moses is to leave them, he says that another spokesman will take his place, and then another will be necessary for the next generation. This is therefore a collective reference to the prophets who will follow.
- As such, it is also the basis for later Messianic expectation and receives a unique fulfillment in Jesus (see [Jn 1:21, 25,45; 5:46; 6:14; 7:40; Ac 3:22–26; 7:37](#)).

¹ [NIV Study Bible](#), Copyright © 1985, 1995, 2002, 2008, 2011 by Zondervan.