

Don't forget to take attendance -Thank you!

- **What's your favorite thing to recommend (something you feel like people need to see/experience/try for themselves)?**

This is meant to be a fun question that gives an opportunity to see what people love and are passionate about. The theme of endorsement/sharing will run throughout the discussion. Feel free to reference back to their answers!

- **Have you ever been given a nickname? What is the story/origin?**

As we continue our journey with Jesus through the Gospel of John, we see Him begin to call His first disciples to follow him. As Jesus' following grows, there is a consistent theme of his followers inviting others to "come and see" for yourself.

Have someone volunteer to read John 1:38-42

- **What is one of the first things the disciples do after encountering Jesus?**

One of the first things Andrew does after encountering Jesus is to run and tell his brother, Simon. It shows his excitement and can also set up a fun question about "who are the first people you run to tell good news."

- **Why did Jesus give Simon a new name? What is the significance of the name itself?**

Jesus gives Simon a new name as a promise/indicator of who he will become. There are several moments in the Bible where God renames people, and they are all moments of significant change in identity. Cephas/Peter means Rock – Jesus is essentially saying that Simon will become someone who is steady/unwavering/stable.

- **Have you ever been discouraged, knowing even though you have been given a new identity in Christ, you still struggled and made mistakes? How should Peter's story encourage us?**

Even though Peter had been given a new name/identity, he did not look or act the part. The process for him to grow into it took time. In the same way, God has given every follower of Jesus a new identity, and yet we still make mistakes along the way. Many times, that can be discouraging, but it is helpful to be reminded of what is true and what our identity is.

While Simon seemed readily willing to follow his brothers request, we see a much different response between Philip and Nathanael.

Have someone volunteer to read John 1:43-50

- **What is Philip's response to Nathanael's skepticism? What should it teach us about sharing our faith with others?**

It is almost more intriguing what Philip's response is not. He does not argue, debate, or get upset, he simply tells Nathanael that he has to come and see for himself. Many times, we feel like we have to be prepared to answer every theological question that may come our way, or that we are incapable of sharing our faith. Philip's invitation is a powerful reminder. Don't underestimate the power of an invitation to come and see.

- **What is it that ultimately convinces Nathanael? In sharing your faith, what is your responsibility/what is God's?**

Nathanael is convinced when Jesus knows something about him that no human person could possibly know. Nathanael came to see, and what he saw was enough to convince him to believe in Jesus. This is a great reminder that it is God that changes hearts and lives. Our responsibility is to invite others to come and see Jesus.

Have someone volunteer to read Matthew 5:16

- **How is Servolution an opportunity to invite others to “come and see”?**

Servolution is an opportunity for us to display to our community that we care for them and Jesus loves them. So many of the things we do (generosity in community, service, etc.) are ultimately so that we can endear people so that we might have an opportunity to invite them to come and see Jesus who can change them. We go and do so that we can invite them to come and see.

- **What are other ways we can invite others to “come and see”?**

The 1st century invitation to “come and see,” could look like “come sit with me” in our context today. Come sit with me at church. Come sit with me for dinner/coffee. Come sit with me in small group. All of these are so that we can ultimately introduce them to the same Jesus that has changed us. It might be helpful to brainstorm as a group, other practical ways we can invite people to “come and see” today and pray for one during your praying time.

Take some time as a group to discuss your plan for Servolution on Sunday. Work through the details and then pray for your project and those you might encounter. Good luck!

We would love for you to help your group to develop some personal bible study habits during our study of the Gospel of John. One idea is to send your group a text/email/message every week with the verses for the upcoming small group discussion. Ask them to read it on their own and personally think through the following three questions.

This week

John 1:35-51

- What does this tell me about God?
- What does this tell me about people?
- Is there a next step for me to take because of this?

You can refer to these questions in group, but do not have to. The main purpose is to build the routine of reading and applying the Bible on their own.