

Sunday, January 18, 2015

Epiphany 2

The Bible: John 1:43-51 (below)

Note: the Old Testament reading for today is 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20. The Gospel Story (on the FISH site) is based on that story, of the young boy Samuel's call by God.

Conversation Starter:

- **Adult/Couple:** Did you make a conscious decision to follow Jesus? If so, what were the circumstances? If not, what did you believe about Jesus as a child versus as an adult?
- **Teen Family:** Remember the last time you had some really good news to share. Whom did you tell? What was it like?
- **Young Family:** Experiment with how long you can go, as a family, in complete silence. Light a candle and set a timer; start with 30 seconds. Talk about what sounds you heard during the silence, and how prayer is as much about listening for God as talking to God.

John 1:43-51 The Message (MSG)

43-44 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. When he got there, he ran across Philip and said, "Come, follow me." (Philip's hometown was Bethsaida, the same as Andrew and Peter.)

45-46 Philip went and found Nathanael and told him, "We've found the One Moses wrote of in the Law, the One preached by the prophets. It's Jesus, Joseph's son, the one from Nazareth!" Nathanael said, "Nazareth? You've got to be kidding."

But Philip said, "Come, see for yourself."

47 When Jesus saw him coming he said, "There's a real Israelite, not a false bone in his body."

48 Nathanael said, "Where did you get that idea? You don't know me." Jesus answered, "One day, long before Philip called you here, I saw you under the fig tree."

49 Nathanael exclaimed, "Rabbi! You are the Son of God, the King of Israel!"

50-51 Jesus said, "You've become a believer simply because I say I saw you one day sitting under the fig tree? You haven't seen anything yet! Before this is over you're going to see heaven open and God's angels descending to the Son of Man and ascending again."