

John 1:19-51 “Jesus Came for People”

We will see the greatness of Jesus and His glory, but we will also see that He spent time with people. People followed Him, they were healed by him, He ate with them, and hung out with them. Jesus is a people person. Jesus did not share the attitude of many today who would rather not help people or love those who are sometimes unlovable.

“The more I get to know people, the more I love my dog.” - Frederick the Great

I. John the Baptist (Verses 19-34)

- 1. One of the first persons to be involved in Jesus life and ministry was John the Baptist. (19-28)**
 - a) He recognized that Jesus was the great one, he was simply an unworthy servant.
 - ◆ Have you discovered that you are privileged to serve Jesus and have a relationship with Him, not the other way around?
 - b) His job was to point people to Jesus and prepare the way for His ministry.
 - ◆ Is your life and ministry a signpost pointing people to Christ or are you drawing attention to yourself?
 - ✎ John 3:30 “*He must increase, but I must decrease.*”
- 2. John testified of Jesus (29-34)**
 - a) Jesus is the Lamb of God (29, 36)
 - b) Jesus is Eternal (30)
 - ◆ Even though John came before Jesus in birth he knew that Jesus Pre-existed from all of eternity.
 - c) Jesus is the anointed one (32)
 - d) Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit (33)
 - ◆ The baptism with the Holy Spirit is the baptism of power for witness to Christ
 - ✎ Acts 1:5 “*for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.*”
 - ✎ Acts 1:8 “*But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me...*”
 - ◆ This is a separate experience to salvation. At salvation we are baptized by the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ
 - ✎ 1 Corinthians 12:13 “*For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body...*”
 - e) Jesus is the Son of God (34)
 - ◆ John 1:18 the term “Son of God” refers to Jesus Deity, not to a natural human father son relationship.

II. Jesus’ First Disciples (Verses 35-51)

- 1. People follow Jesus because they hear the message preached (37, 40)**
 - a) They heard John the Baptist speak and because of his message they followed Jesus
 - ✎ *Turn to Romans 10:13-17*

Illustration: Moshe Rosen discusses the importance for young people to witness to their parents. His own parents disowned him because he converted from Judaism to Christianity. His father said to him, “You are never to mention Christ, the Bible, or your religion to your mother or to me, or to any of the family.” A deacon in his church told him to be a “silent witness,” and that a time would come when they would ask about his faith. Seventeen years after he accepted the reconciliation with his parents, his mother went into a Christless eternity. His father followed in another decade. “They never

asked."

There is no such thing as a "silent witness." Being a silent witness doesn't work because the focus is on whether we can be good and righteous. Our message should not be who we are but who He is. #1798

2. People follow Jesus because He is the one that all people are searching for...some just don't know it until they meet Him. (38, 41)

- a) Those who are genuinely seeking Jesus will find him
 - ✎ Jeremiah 29:13 "And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart."
- b) Jesus is able to lead us faithfully because He is able to control the future and He knows where He is going (42)

3. People follow Jesus because they hear His personal invitation "follow me" (43)

- a) Remember, this is a personal relationship with Him. We will hear Him speaking to us in the still small voice, and once we hear Him then we can never go back.
 - ✎ John 10:27-28 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand."
- b) The best that we can do is tell people about Jesus (the message preached) and lead people to Jesus. (46)
- c) Jesus knows us before we know Him. He is actually the one who has sought us first. (47-49)
 - ✎ John 15:16 "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you."
 - ✎ Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."
 - ✎ Ephesians 2:10 "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."

4. People follow Jesus because He is the only way to heaven

- a) Verse 51 is a reference to Jacob when heaven was opened and the angels came up and down on the ladder. (Gen. 28:12)
 - ◆ Jesus is the gateway and ladder that will lead us to heaven.
 - ✎ John 10:9 "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture."