

## *Bringing Friends to Church*

*John 1:37-45* And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?

He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour.

One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me.

Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

- Friend Day is coming up November 2
- All of us should have a friend
- Inviting people to church and Christ should be a natural part of our Christian life.

### **1. Jesus gives an invitation to all.**

- “Come and see” (v. 39).

### **2. People have questions before they follow Jesus.**

- “where dwellest thou?” (v. 38).

### **3. Relationship is the most important influence to get people saved.**

- “abode with him that day” (v. 39).

### **4. Most times a preacher tells us about Jesus before a friend convinces us to follow Jesus.**

- “Behold the Lamb of God” (v. 29, 36).

## **5. Jesus is interested in people before they begin following.**

- “What seek ye?” (v. 38).

## **6. You must follow Jesus before you get others.**

- “One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him” (v. 40).

## **7. Most think first of getting a relative to Jesus.**

- “He first findeth his own brother Simon” (v. 41).
- A survey asked people, “WHAT INFLUENCED YOU TO CHRIST?”
  - 2% Advertisement, a thing
  - 6% Pastoral influence
  - 6% Planned evangelistic outreach
  - 86% Friend or Relative

## **8. Sometimes young friends influence older ones.**

- Andrew first brought Simon to Jesus, before John brought James to Jesus” (v. 42).

## **9. The first thing Jesus did on His first day should be our example.**

- Who will you bring next week?

## **10. Some people must have their questions answered before they follow Jesus.**

- “And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?” (John 1:46).
  - No Old Testament prophet from Galilee.
  - Looked for Messiah from Bethlehem.

## **11. Some people want to analyze everything before they follow Jesus.**

- “Philip saith unto him, Come and see.” (v. 46).

## **12. Ask God to give you faith for Friend Day.**