


# 2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY: JOHN 1:43-51



Jesus has begun to put together his team. In this passage, Philip hears Jesus say, “Come with me.” And he does. As it is dawning on Philip who this Jesus really is, he goes and finds his slightly skeptical friend, Nathanael, to tell him that they have found the one they had heard about. Nathanael remains dubious—how could anything good come out of Nazareth? Philip, confident that Nathanael will see what he has seen, insists, “Come with me.” Jesus sees Nathanael as he really is and calls him forth. Nathanael knows, now, that Jesus is the “Son of God.”

## COME AND SEE

### The Story

Jesus wants to share. There is work to do, and he knows things he wants to show others. So Jesus starts looking around for some people to help him. “Hmm,” said Jesus. “Hmm. Philip? Yes. Philip.” “Come with me,” Jesus said to Philip. And Philip said, “OK!”

Philip had a friend with a long name: Nathanael. “Hey, Nathanael, you should come with me and my friend Jesus.” Nathanael is not sure. “Aw, come on, Nathanael, come with me and you’ll see.”

“OK,” says Nathanael. He goes with Philip and then he becomes one of Jesus’ followers and friends.

### Reflection Questions:

#### Young Children

Why do they think Jesus is gathering these people?

- I wonder why Philip was so eager to join?
- I wonder why Nathanael was not so sure?

#### Older Youth

What do we think “grabbed” Philip and made it possible for him to so quickly choose to follow Jesus?

- Since Jesus had already called Andrew and Peter, who came from the same hometown as

Philip, do you suppose they had had a conversation with Philip?

- What concept did Philip choose to try to convince Nathanael?
- What did Jesus notice under the fig tree that convinced Nathanael?

## ACTIVITIES

### YOUNG CHILDREN

**Art Activity:** Each child needs a piece of paper and access to some crayons. It would be good if you choose to draw also. Invite the children to draw Jesus calling Philip and Philip going out and bringing in Nathanael. You might draw these three in a circle.

### OLDER YOUTH

**Invitations:** Create invitations, with paper or digitally, to send to friends whom you would like to invite to St. Edward’s “Pay it Forward”, which was a book and then a movie they might have seen.) Some may have seen the bumper sticker that invites people to practice random acts of kindness and senseless acts of generosity. Help your children identify what they can do secretly to “pay it forward.”