

**Ensure fellowship with God through 1 John 1:9**

**1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**Matthew 4:11-12**

(11) Then the devil left Him...

- Immediately after Satan's three failed attempts to get Jesus Christ to act independently of the Father.
  - Satan fled the presence of Jesus Christ because He took up a firm defensive position in applying the infallible Word of God by wielding the sword of the Spirit.
  - This is something that Satan cannot stand up to.
  - Principle is expressed in James 4:7 "**Resist the devil and he will flee from you.**"
- 
- We know from Mt 4:2 that He had fasted forty days.
  - It was after these forty days that He became hungry.
    - **"...He then** (HUSTEROS – "*then*") **became hungry.**" Mt 4:2
    - The forty days was such an intense period of testing that the humanity of Christ did not recognize His need for food.

**POD** – When the believer is engaged in spiritual battle during intense periods of testing the **hierarchy** of physical needs are replaced with **spiritual requirements**.

- **Hierarchy** of needs such as food, shelter and clothing as basic needs.
- An individual is not concerned with amassing wealth if they are starving.
- Principle: Satan always waits to attack the believer in a position of weakness.
  - The believer must remain in high alert.

**Spiritual requirements:**

- Maintaining fellowship with God in the RennJ Diagram.
- The Word of God – the application of Bible doctrine.

...and behold, angels came and began to **minister** to Him.

**"Minister"** - διακονέω

DIAKONEO – "*To serve someone*"  
"*To wait on someone*"  
"*To take care of someone*"

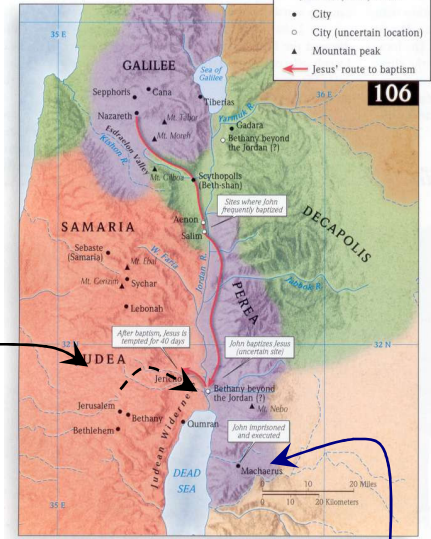
- The angels nursed Him back to health; this was a process.
- The angels were the Father's divine provision for His Son.
- Once Jesus regains His strength, He returns to the Jordan where John is preaching the kingdom message (Mt 3:2).
- When John sees Jesus approaching he identifies Him as **"...the Lamb of God."**
- Two of John's disciples (Andrew and John) decide to follow Christ (Jn 1:37-49).

(12) Now when Jesus heard that John had been taken into custody, He withdrew into Galilee;

*There is a time gap in between Matthew 4:11 & 12*

**Historical Chronology between Matt 4:11 and 12**

1. Jesus returns to Judea after the wilderness testing and John [the Herald] identifies Him as the promised Messiah (John 1:29-36).
  - Andrew and John - - vv. 37-39
  - Peter - - vs. 40-42
  - Philip - - vs. 43
  - Nathanael - - vv. 45-49



3. Performs first miracle at the wedding in Cana of Galilee (John 2:1-11).
4. Christ travels to Capernaum from the wedding feast with Mary, His brothers and the disciples (John 2:12).
5. Christ travels to Jerusalem from Capernaum for the Passover and drives the money changers and their animals out of the temple (John 2:13-21).
  - This is a different temple cleansing than mentioned in the other gospels:
    - Matt 21:12 - - ; Mark 15:11 - - ; Luke 19:45-48
6. He meets Nicodemus (a Pharisee) and communicates that spiritual regeneration is the prerequisite to enter the kingdom (John 3:1).

***Remember that John's ministry has been continuing on throughout all of these events.***

7. John is arrested by Herod.
8. Jesus returns to Galilee through Samaria (John 4:1 - - also Mt 4:12).
  - Jews normally avoided Samaria but this is where he meets the woman at the well.

**1st Event in Historical Chronology: John 1:35-51**

(35) Again the next day John was standing with two of his disciples (Andrew and John), (36) and he looked at Jesus as He walked, and said, "**Behold, the Lamb of God!**"

**John's ministry will eventually cease as the Lord's ministry continues to grow.**

(37) The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

What happened in between the time they **heard** and the time they **followed**? They believed!

**POD – Faith plus the message of God results in action.**

- Believing God's message is a prerequisite to taking action.

- Taking action is tantamount to following the Lord.

(38) And Jesus turned...

- Jesus knew they (Andrew and John) were behind Him.
- He knew that they had already decided to follow Him.
- He knew that they believed what John said about Him.
- He knew - - because He is the God-Man. A wonderful demonstration of divine omniscience in the Person of Jesus Christ.
- **When Jesus Christ exercised His divine attributes they were always in accordance with the Father's plan, will, and provision for His life.**
- He never acted on His own (Phil 2:5-9).

...and saw them following, and said to them, "What do you **seek**?"...

“Seek” - ζητέω

ZETEO – “Seeking or looking for”  
“Considering or deliberating”

You are either onboard, moving forward in the plan of God or you are not. These disciples were onboard.

...They said to Him, "Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where are You staying?"

- These men were humble – ready to learn.

(39) He said to them, "Come, and you will see."

- The Lord's response, "Come, and you will see," requires Andrew & John to walk by faith because they did not know where He was going.
- They had to follow Him on faith.
- The same principle is true for us today!

So they came and saw where He was staying [**Faith in action**]; and they stayed with Him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.

Just as they had the privilege of sitting with Christ and asking Him questions, so we have the privilege of fellowshiping with Christ as we meet with fellow-believers in the Word.

“Where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.” (Mt 18:20)

(40) One of the two who heard John speak and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

(41) He found first his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which translated means Christ).

***It is abnormal to know the Lord Jesus Christ and not want to tell people about Him. Andrew is functioning on positive signals because he told his brother!***

(42) He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John (another demonstration of divine omniscience); you shall be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter) (a demonstration of divine sovereignty).

(43) The next day He purposed to go into Galilee, and He found Philip. And Jesus said to him, "Follow Me."

(44) Now Philip was from Bethsaida, of the city of Andrew and Peter.

(45) Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote--Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

- Philip invites Nathanael...
- He gets a little opposition when he communicates about the Lord.
- What example does Philip give us? He does not argue or debate but rather invites Nathanael to investigate for himself.
- The principle – the Lord and His message stand on their own!

(46) Nathanael said to him, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

(47) Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" Yet another manifestation of divine omniscience.

(48) Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."

(49) Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel."

(50) Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You will see greater things than these."

(51) And He said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you (SU – y'all), you will see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

**POD** – Experiential blessings are available for the believer who walks with the Lord.

- When you are walking with the Lord you are going to experience wonderful blessings in your life.
- Blessings of living in close personal fellowship with your Savior.
- Having a joy that money cannot buy.
- Having the fruit of His Spirit produced in you!

### **So how did the disciples begin?**

- It started with John's message to Andrew and John. They heard a message – they believed it and they put it into action.
- Jesus extended an invitation to Andrew and John – "come and see".
- Then Andrew invited Peter and the Lord invited Philip.
- Philip invited Nathanael – "come and see".

The disciples are excited about what they are learning from the Lord; excited about whom He is and they extend an invitation "come and see".

What is our motivation? To bring people into a church so it can grow? Absolutely not!

- Our motivation is compassion for others who do not know Jesus Christ as a result of what we have learned about Him in church. We know something that others don't know – we have learned something others have not and know how vital it is to life.
- It's our love for the Lord in light of what we have been taught from His Word. It's the message!

### **John 2:1-2**

- (1) On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there;
- (2) and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding.

---

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.