

## ***JUST-A-MINUTE*** – for the Second Sunday after Epiphany, January 18, 2009

Every leader needs followers. Here is how Jesus recruited some of his first followers: **John 1:43-51**.

*The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”*

*When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”*

*Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”*

### Questions for Discussion

- (1) Nathaniel was properly skeptical: “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” What do you think? Can anything good come out of Richfield?
- (2) Preachers often use this story as a text for evangelism sermons. “It’s easy,” they say. “Just invite people to join you. Tell them why you like your church, and then say, ‘Come and see.’” Is it really that easy?
- (3) Note how many grand titles are given to Jesus in this passage: “Son of God,” “King of Israel,” “Son of Man.” Which is your favorite?

### A Prayer for Epiphany 2

Insistent God, by night and day you summon your slumbering people. So stir us with your voice and enlighten our lives with your grace that we give ourselves fully to Christ’s call to mission and ministry. Amen. (*RCL Prayers*, p. 56)

Blessings to you this Epiphanytide – *Pastor Mark Wegener*  
[mwegener@woodlakechurch.org](mailto:mwegener@woodlakechurch.org)