

John 1:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

Analysis

The two disciples 'heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.' Faith comes by hearing (Romans 10:17). John's testimony produced immediate response—they followed. The verb 'akoloutheo' (followed) indicates more than physical movement; it implies discipleship, commitment to follow a teacher. These disciples demonstrate the proper response to gospel testimony—hearing leads to following. The simplicity is instructive: they heard, they responded, they followed.

Historical Context

These two disciples represent the first fruits of Christian discipleship. Andrew is named (verse 40); the unnamed disciple is traditionally identified as John the Evangelist himself. Their willingness to leave their current teacher and follow Jesus based on testimony shows remarkable spiritual sensitivity and readiness.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What testimony about Christ first drew you to follow Him?
2. How does hearing lead to following in the process of becoming a disciple?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἤκουσαν αὐτοῦ οἱ δύο μαθηταὶ λαλοῦντος καὶ
And heard him G3588 the two disciples speak And
G2532 G191 G846 G1417 G3101 G2980 G2532
ἡκολούθησαν τῷ Ἰησοῦ
they followed Jesus
G190 G3588 G2424

Additional Cross-References

Romans 10:17 (Parallel theme): So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

John 1:43 (References Jesus): The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me.

Revelation 22:17 (Parallel theme): And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

Zechariah 8:21 (Parallel theme): And the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to pray before the LORD, and to seek the LORD of hosts: I will go also.