

John 1:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

Analysis

Jesus deliberately goes to Galilee and 'findeth Philip.' The verb 'heuriskei' (finds) indicates intentional seeking—Jesus chose Philip, not vice versa. The sovereign initiative in calling disciples echoes Jesus' later words: 'Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you' (John 15:16). Philip is from Bethsaida, the same town as Andrew and Peter, suggesting networks of relationship that Christ uses for kingdom building.

Historical Context

Bethsaida, a fishing village on the Sea of Galilee's northern shore, produced three disciples. Jesus' 'Follow me' issued the same call He would give throughout His ministry. Philip's immediate obedience demonstrates the effective power of Christ's call—those truly called respond. Church tradition holds Philip later ministered in Asia Minor and was martyred.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's initiative in finding Philip challenge views of salvation as purely human decision?
2. What relationships and networks might God use to expand His kingdom through you?

Interlinear Text

Τῇ ἐπαύριον ἡθέλησεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐξελθεῖν εἰς τὴν
G3588 The day following would G3588 Jesus go forth into G3588
G1887 G2309 G2424 G1831 G1519

Γαλιλαίαν καὶ εὑρίσκει Φίλιππον καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ
Galilee and findeth Philip and saith unto him
G1056 G2532 G2147 G5376 G2532 G3004 G846

Ἀκολούθει μοι
Follow me
G190 G3427

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 65:1 (Parallel theme): I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation that was not called by my name.

Matthew 9:9 (References Jesus): And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him.

John 12:21 (References Jesus): The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus.

John 14:8 (Parallel theme): Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us.

John 6:5 (References Jesus): When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?

1 John 4:19 (Parallel theme): We love him, because he first loved us.

Matthew 10:3 (Parallel theme): Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;

John 1:28 (Parallel theme): These things were done in Bethabara beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing.

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