

St Thomas Home Group Study

January 2023 - Week 3

The Calling of the Disciples

Read the study passage: John 1:29-42

The Study

- Q1 What did John the Baptist mean when he called Jesus: 'The Lamb of God'? (*Jn 1:36*)
- Q2 How do you understand the phrase: 'The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world'? (*Jn 1: 29*)
- Q3 What is sin?
- Q4 Read Luke 1:76-77 for Zechariah's prophecy concerning his son's mission in life, and then read John 1:29-34. Do you think John the Baptist fulfilled this mission, and if so, how?
- Q5 When Jesus sees two of John's followers starting to follow him, he turns and asks them 'What are you looking for?' (*Jn 1:38a*).
What do you think they are looking for?
- Q6 As Jesus gathered disciples and followers around him, do you think it was easier to follow Jesus 2,000 years ago, or now? Why?
- Q7 What personal actions do you think you might take in your response to this passage?

How do I relate to this story?

- Q8 Look at the image of Jesus calling the disciples, imagine his arms open in welcome as He calls them to follow him. Try and re-imagine that same welcome when it was directed toward you. Do you remember the promise that Jesus offered? - not only would he come to you, but he also promised to give you the Spirit of Truth to dwell in you and empower you for life with God through Christ.

How do you continue to live in response to this offer?



Jesus calling the disciples

Background

- John 1:29-42 opens with a conversation between John the Baptist and some of his disciples, and records how Jesus recruits his first disciples. Jesus is identified by John the Baptist as 'The Lamb of God' and 'The Son of God', and John describes seeing the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, descending on Jesus.
- Agnus Dei* - The lamb of God.
Agnus Dei tolle peccato mundi - The lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

*Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?*

*Will you leave your-self behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare,
will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?*

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