



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 18 January 2015

"Being the Gospel to all People"

A very warm welcome is extended
to all visitors to St Johns

Morning tea is offered after the service today, so please stay and enjoy some time with us.

Today's Theme: Called and Recalled

Focus Scripture: John 1:43-51

Psalms 139: 1-6, 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, 1 Samuel 3:1-10



BACKGROUND:

Christians commonly refer to discipleship as following Jesus. However, is this what Jesus sought? Did Jesus seek to have all eyes turned toward him, or did he seek to enable disciples to see differently? This week's texts offer the invitation to see ourselves and our world as God sees us. We are called to see differently, and we are reminded, in the gospel of John, that seeing differently leads us into the transforming work of God.

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me."⁴⁴ Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

⁴⁶ "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked.

"Come and see," said Philip. ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit." ⁴⁸ "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹ Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel." ⁵⁰ Jesus said, "You believe^[a] because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that." ⁵¹ He then added, "Very truly I tell you,^[b] you^[c] will see 'heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on'^[d] the Son of Man."

Theme: Moving Forward

Focus Scripture: Mark 1:14-20.E

Other Readings: Jonah 3:1-5,10, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Prayer points: Please pray for: The Dimock family in their grief for Ron's death; Margaret Morrison's successful radiotherapy treatment; Ron Ashton

CHURCH NOTICES AND EVENTS:

Holiday Programme 2015 : As part of January's Holiday Programme we are going to Auckland Zoo. To save costs we would like to take the children by car. Are you able to assist us in providing transport please? Contact Jeannine: 534 2305.



Christmas Offerings

It is very pleasing to report that offerings over the Christmas services for the work of the City Mission totalled \$609. This amount plus our "tithe" of 1/10 of the Thanksgiving offering (about \$300) will be forwarded to the Mission. Bob Williamson - Finance convenor.

Thank you to everyone for their help at All Saints with Ron Dimock's funeral. The family were very appreciative.

On behalf of all St John's drivers, I would like to thank all those who helped top make our car-park a wonderfully easy place to park – *again*. It was a dedicated but small team – so thank you for your Monday morning – we all appreciate it.

Real Life :-This Sunday night (18th January) John's guest will be nutrition expert and columnist, **Claire Turnbull**.

On behalf of my family, I would like to say a big thank you to everyone for your Christmas wishes, cards and wonderful gifts. We have been blessed with these expressions of your love for us. I hope you have had a good Christmas time with family and friends and may God bless your new year. Lorraine

Offerings:- I am just starting the process in preparation for the end of the financial year and would like to know if anyone has any spare envelopes they are no longer using that I can reissue. If you would prefer to have envelopes on a different cycle ie fortnightly instead of weekly please let me know, or if anyone would like more information on giving by Direct Credit instead of the envelope system please contact Jeannine in the office.