

# Living Water Fellowship

Epiphany Sunday – 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## COME TO JESUS

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION      CHRIST BE ALL AROUND ME (ALL SONS & DAUGHTERS)

### WELCOME & PRAYER:

## GROW IN HIS GRACE

**SONG:**      O Come All Ye Faithful

**BIBLE READING:**      John 1:29-42

<sup>29</sup> The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him & said, “Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup> He is the one I was talking about when I said, ‘A man is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me.’ <sup>31</sup> I did not recognize him as the Messiah, but I have been baptizing with water so that he might be revealed to Israel.”

<sup>32</sup> Then John testified, “I saw the Holy Spirit descending like a dove from heaven & resting upon him. <sup>33</sup> I didn’t know he was the one, but when God sent me to baptize with water, he told me, ‘The one on whom you see the Spirit descend & rest is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>34</sup> I saw this happen to Jesus, so I testify that he is the Chosen One of God.”

<sup>35</sup> The following day John was again standing with two of his disciples. <sup>36</sup> As Jesus walked by, John looked at him & declared, “Look! There is the Lamb of God!” <sup>37</sup> When John’s two disciples heard this, they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> Jesus looked around & saw them following. “What do you want?” he asked them. They replied, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?”

<sup>39</sup> “Come & see,” he said. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon when they went with him to the place where he was staying, and they remained with him the rest of the day.

<sup>40</sup> Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of these men who heard what John said & then followed Jesus. <sup>41</sup> Andrew went to find his brother, Simon, & told him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means “Christ”). <sup>42</sup> Then Andrew brought Simon to meet Jesus. Looking intently at Simon, Jesus said, “Your name is Simon, son of John—but you will be called Cephas” (which means “Peter”).

### CHILDREN’S TIME:

**SONG:**      O Come O Come Emmanuel

### FAITH CHAT:

1. When you receive good news, with whom do you share it first? Why them? Then who?
2. Is there someone you know who has not yet responded in faith & obedience to Jesus and is resistant to the “Look! and Come & See” you have offered? Now what?

**THE MESSAGE:** *IT'S TIME: KINGDOM PURPOSE*

**OFFERING SONG:** The First Noel

**PRAYERS:**

**THE COMMUNION:**

*Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*Worship during Communion: VIDEO – GOODNESS OF GOD (Maranatha Music)-CCL Licence 384660*

*GO IN HIS POWER*

**THE BLESSING:**

**(Name), † child of God, the Father grant you perseverance, endurance & hope. Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**SONG:** May the Lord Bless you Today (AT 408)

*SHOW HIS LOVE*

**Group Bible Study/Discussion:**

1. Read John 1:29-42. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging/encouraging? Why?
2. Why is John baptizing people? What does his baptism signify?
3. According to John, what is the purpose of Jesus' ministry? Why is that significant for you as well as for the entire creation? (Read Romans 8:19-23 as you discuss.)
4. One theme in this passage is "identity." Note the identifications in vss 29-30, 34, 37 & 42. What do you notice about each identification? How does Jesus identify Peter & then re-identify him? What's important about that? How does that apply to you?
5. When the disciples met Jesus, they told their family & friends about him. (See 1:41 & 1:45) If you have a family member or a good friend who lives distant from a relationship with Jesus, what are some of the ways to do this?
6. What question did Jesus ask the 2 disciples of John the Baptist who had started following him? How is his question an unusual one? What else might he have asked?
7. What were the 2 disciples of John seeking & how did Jesus respond? What do you think they did for the rest of the day? How does this influence your idea of discipleship? ...of evangelism? ...of growing in faith?
8. Note the "titles" used for Jesus. (Read all the way to 51 for a full list) Discuss the meaning & implications of each.
9. Compare Jn 1:41 with Is 9:6-7. Note Andrew calls Jesus "Messiah." Isaiah tells us what that expectation included. How does Jesus ultimately fulfill the role of Messiah, but differently & more fully than the disciples, or anyone else, expected?
10. In the 1<sup>st</sup> century disciples followed closely behind their teachers. They were concerned with knowing & being like their teacher. How do you live this principle in your relationship with Jesus? Is there a danger in placing too much emphasis on either extreme of "knowing" or "being like" Jesus? Why/not?
11. If Living Water were to begin reshaping our Vision & Mission around the simple invitation of Jesus to "Come & See," & "Go & Tell," how would you respond?