



All Christians' Fellowship International

P.O. Box 1193 * Frederick, MD 21702 USA * Phone (301) 695-4328 * Fax (301) 591-4013

Interactive Sunday school Outline

TOPIC: **Friendship Evangelism**
TEXT: ***John 1:29-51***

Instructions: *Instructions: - Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone could participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone to have an equal opportunity to participate.*

Introduction: For many of us evangelism is like guerrilla warfare. We make brief raids into enemy territory then retreat to the safety of our "holiness to die." No wonder it makes us nervous! The early Christians did talk with strangers about Jesus. But the gospel often spread from friend to friend or one family member to another. John 1 gives an excellent example of the patient, friendship approach to evangelism.

1. Who introduced you to Jesus Christ, and how? Explain how it happened.
2. What thoughts and feelings do you think John's statements aroused in the two disciples? John 1: 29-36.
3. The two disciples follow Jesus because they want to know more about him but also seem hesitant to question him directly. How can we help our friends to feel free to ask us about God?
4. Jesus used a "come and see" approach with the disciples (v. 38-39). Why would this be more effective than merely asserting his deity?
How can we help our unbelieving friends to observe Jesus in action?
- 5- Even in temporary lodgings Jesus used hospitality evangelism (v. 39). In what ways can we make better use of this approach?
6. Note Andrew's hurry and imagine how he tells the news to Simon (v. 40-42). As we seek to bring family members or friends to Jesus, why is our attitude about the good news important?
7. Jesus finds Philip, and then Philip finds his friend Nathanael (v. 43-46). Why would it be unthinkable not to talk about Jesus with someone you care about?
8. Nathanael knew the Messiah had to come from Bethlehem, not Nazareth (Micah 5:2). How do Jesus' words immediately dispel Nathanael's skepticism (v. 46-50)?
9. Jesus' first six disciples are relatives and acquaintances from a single fishing village (v. 44). What advantages are there in concentrating our evangelism on natural groupings of people like families and co-workers? What acquaintances do you have at work, school or in your neighborhood whose friendship you could begin to cultivate?
10. Interestingly, Jesus is content to let the disciples hang around for months before asking them to make a decision about who he is. Why is it important not to pressure people too early about making a decision?

11. Throughout this passage it seems natural for one friend to tell another about Jesus (v. 36, 41, and 45). Why do you think we often find this so *unnatural*?
12. What ideas does this passage give you for reaching those friends or family members who have not met Jesus?