

“HORIZONS: INVITATION #3” ~ Discussion Group notes ~ Steve Dunn 24/02/19

Here are the questions that both sets of groups used on Sunday morning. Look at both accounts in Scripture and allow one or both batches of questions to remind you of what you learnt, to help you discuss further, and then finish by continuing to pray for your friends and loved ones.

“A” GROUPS: [John 1.35-42](#)

AN ENCOUNTER: [v35-36](#)

1: What does the text’s detail say about how these men met with Jesus?

- What does this tell us about the opportunities God gives us? Reflect on this.

A REACTION: [v37-41](#)

2: Discuss Jesus’s initial question, “*What are you seeking?*”

- Compare the different things people are seeking, and how that might help us know how to continue conversations

3: What was Andrew’s next response? Why do you think he did this?

- What might it mean for us to “*bring someone to Jesus*”? (This is language we may often use, but not always understand)
- How might Andrew’s invitation “*We have found the Messiah*” need to be different in our own setting? Why? (*Think about the people you know and pray for; how might you word such an invitation?*)

THE RESULT: [v42b](#)

4: Jesus’s interaction with Simon takes an interesting turn:

- (i) He indicates He knows Simon, and
- (ii) He renames Him!
 - Discuss how this gives us confidence regarding the people we bring to Jesus, and the God we are introducing them to.
 - How does this help you as an “Inviter”?

“B” GROUPS: [John 1.43-49](#)

AN ENCOUNTER: [v43](#)

1: What does the text’s details say about how Philip meets with Jesus?

- What does this tell us about God’s interactions with us? Reflect on this.

A REACTION: [v44-46](#)

2: What was Philip’s reaction? Why do you think he did this?

- How might Philip’s invitation need to be different in our own setting? Why? (*Think about the people you know and pray for; how might you word such an invitation?*)

3: What was Nathanael’s initial response?

- Think of different examples you’ve come across of people’s initial reactions (or your own!) to the news of Jesus; why might these be?
- How did Philip handle Nathanael’s reply?
- What can we learn from this for our own everyday lives? In what ways can we say to other people, “*Come and see*”?

THE RESULT: v47-49

4: Jesus's interaction with Nathanael takes an interesting turn...

- (i) He reveals that He knows Nathanael's heart, and
- (ii) He saw Nathanael during a private moment
 - Discuss how this gives us confidence regarding the people we bring to Jesus, and the God we are introducing them to.
 - How does this help you as an "Inviter"?

CONCLUSION:

- Both stories feature an initial encounter, and then a subsequent one where the Invited **become** the Inviters
- The differences include Jesus being pointed to, and seeking people out
- The results each time teach us **God has plans for people who don't know Him yet...**