

## Refresh (October 10, 2021) “Sharing Our Hope”

### OPENING QUESTION:

**SERMON DISCUSSION:** How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

### READ John 1:35-51

1. Who told the two disciples about Jesus? Who told Simon about Jesus? Who told Nathanael about Jesus? Note the common denominator regarding the spread of the Gospel?

2. Who are the “Andrews” and “Philips” in your life who pointed you to Jesus? To whom have you been an “Andrew” or “Philip”? To whom could you be an “Andrew” or “Philip”?

3. “Let us check where we are calling people to focus: are we asking people to focus primarily on our “ministries,” or primarily on the person of Christ himself? It is too easy to begin to “market,” or even “sell” our religion, rather than to call people to behold the Lamb of God. The difference is subtle, for we must be active in calling people to follow Jesus, and this surely does require proclamation, promotion, and active public persuasion that Christ is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. But though the difference is subtle, it is crucial; in our hearts we must set apart Christ as Lord, seek to bring people to love him rather than love us, and let the savor of that commitment spread out as a sweet aroma to all those whom we serve for Christ’s sake.” (John 1-12 For You (p. 37-38 by Josh Moody)

Read John 1:19-35 and discuss John the Baptist’s ministry and how it is reflected in the quote above. Also discuss what you learn regarding sharing our “Hope” with others.

4. Being a witness for Christ is not just about living rightly, it is also about telling others the reason for our hope (1 Peter 3:15). How can you be ready to share your hope in Jesus? What encouragement do you find in Exodus 4:12, Jeremiah 1:9, and Matthew 10:19-20?

5. Explain what Matthew 9:4; John 1:48, 2:24-25, 5:42, 16:30; Romans 5:8 reveal about Jesus. What do you think Nathanael thought when he realized Jesus “knew him”? What is your response to the fact that Jesus knows everything about you?

6. In John 1:51 (note: the Greek word for “you” is plural) what incident is Jesus recalling from Genesis 28:10-19 and what is the promise to Nathanael and to all believers?