

* Prayers Anchored in the
Gospel of John

Monday Day 22

*Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily
the call of our
Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all
people the Good News
of his salvation, that we and the whole
world may perceive
the glory of his marvelous works; who lives
and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever
and ever. *Amen. Online Book of Common Prayer, 1979*

***The Collect**
Collecting your thoughts so you can focus
on God.

John 1:38-52 NIV

³⁸ Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?”

They said, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?”

³⁹ “Come,” he replied, “and you will see.”

So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

⁴⁰ Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. ⁴¹ The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ). ⁴² And he brought him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas” (which, when translated, is Peter).

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.”

 **Scripture**

John 1:29-37 NIV

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 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, you will see ‘heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on’ the Son of Man.”

 **Scripture**

* This is a time when you will want to understand the passage and the original intent of the author. Feel free to read it several times and also to write down any questions you might have.

So Nathanael has a correct though limited understanding of who Jesus is, just as we will see that the opponents have a correct though limited view in their acknowledgment that Jesus is a teacher come from God (Jn 3:2). The opponents will continue to question (3:4, 9) whereas Nathanael, instead, wholeheartedly accepts and confesses. Nathanael is promised further enlightenment and is represented as receiving it, for he is one of the disciples who meets Jesus after the resurrection (21:2). We will see the opponents, on the other hand, go from questioning to antagonism to violent hostility. Whitacre, IVP Commentary

* **Meditation**

At the end of this section Jesus—introduced as one who comes on the scene, moving silently past, and then shown as one who has extraordinary knowledge and authority—makes an amazing claim: I tell you the truth, you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man (v. 51). Jesus is speaking to Nathanael (auto, omitted in the NIV), but the verbs he uses are in the plural, so this is intended for the rest of the disciples also. The allusion is clearly to Jacob's vision (Gen 28:12). The picture could be of Jesus as the ladder upon which the angels are moving, but no ladder is mentioned. It is more likely that he is on earth as a new Jacob. Thus the King of Israel, acknowledged by the true Israelite, turns out to be the fulfillment of Israel (Jacob) himself.

Whitacre, IVP Commentary

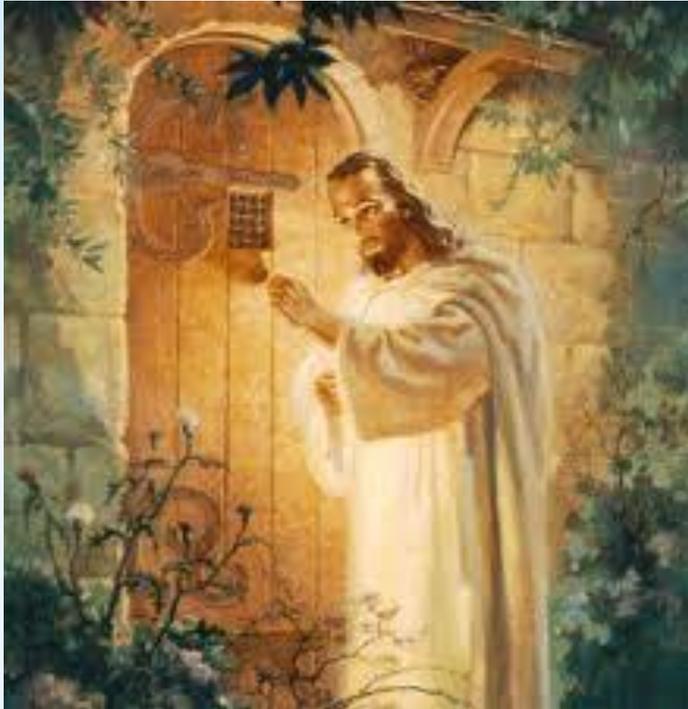
 **Meditation**

Jesus, could I be like Nathanael? Can I encounter you and believe without further doubt? I don't want to be like the crowd that kept wanting more miracles or further proof but Nathanael only needed to meet Jesus and He was convinced.

Jesus it will be a privilege to hear once from you and then act on what you have given me.

Len Thompson

 **Response**



- * Jesus came so that we could receive Him and open ourselves in faith to Him.
- * Take a few minutes to receive the words of Jesus as truth that can be trusted. Ask for opportunities today to act on what you know has come to you from Jesus.

* Prayer

Bless every true disciple of Jesus with your interaction and instruction. It is such a privilege to be a true disciple of Jesus. Enjoy being identified with Jesus this week.

 **Blessing**