

# Firestarter 2

## Scripture: John 1:19-51

Before you read

1. Gather a pen, paper, and highlighters (for marking in your Bible) if you don't want to mark your Bible. Print off this sheet and mark it here.
2. Pray, asking God for wisdom and understanding of the word you are about to read.
3. Read the section more than one time.
  - First, read to understand
  - Second, read to notice
  - Third, read for questions (Choose 3 questions from the observation section to find the answers)
  - Fourth, mark all the words that refer to/name **Jesus**.

### READ: John 1:19-51

### OBSERVATION:

How did John prepare the way for Jesus? (Note that when the book refers to John, it means John the Baptist, rather than John the disciple and author of this Gospel.)

Why is Jesus called "the Lamb of God," and how does that relate to taking away sins? (See 1:29 note.)

What does the Holy Spirit landing like a dove on Jesus at His baptism confirm about Him (v. 34)?

What does it mean that Jesus baptizes His followers with the Holy Spirit? (See 1:33 note.)

What did Andrew do before and after meeting Jesus? What can you learn from his example?

Why did Jesus change Peter's name? (See 1:42 note.)

Why do you think Nathanael and the others were so confident of Jesus' identity right away?

What example does this set for others who want to follow Jesus? What's the significance of Jesus' word picture in verse 51? (See 1:51 note.)

## **APPLICATION:**

We may wonder what Jesus' first followers were like or what it was like to be one of them? Would we be among those who misunderstood or even rejected Jesus while He was on earth? It's easy to miss the subtle differences between those drawn to Jesus and those offended by Him in this section. Most people who followed Jesus were ordinary people who humbly dared to trust Him without reservation. They didn't do extraordinary things to attract Jesus' attention. Still, they showed faith simply by taking Him at His Word, responding to Him without hesitation, and eagerly telling others about Him.

In what ways do you identify with Andrew and Nathanael?

Think about your own belief in Jesus? Where does it come from? What could make it stronger?

**Action Step:** Is God showing you something during your time in His Word or in prayer that you have not yet acted on? Follow the example of Jesus' first followers. Take God at His Word and respond to Him without hesitation. Depend on the Holy Spirit for help and direction; do what He's told you to do.

Who are you inviting to know Jesus? One way to break the ice could be to invite them to a youth event.

## **PRAY:**

Give Jesus thanks for coming to earth to be the sacrifice for your sin and offenses against God. Ask Jesus to help you be like His first followers—quick to respond to Him, trust Him, and eagerly tell others about Him.