

would be curiosity to see this One, but John did not tell them.

The next day Jesus was walking among the people just as a carpenter from Nazareth, and John pointed to Him and said "Look! Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world."

Two men who had been attending John's preaching started and walked after Jesus. He saw them and turned and asked them who they were looking for. Speaking to Him as a teacher, calling Him Rabbi, they asked Him where He lived.

He invited them to come with Him and see. Perhaps He had a little booth or camp of boughs, perhaps He was boarding at some house. They went with Him, and talked with Him a good while. How they would wonder as they listened! This was the first teaching of Jesus after he had begun His ministry, and these two men, whose names were John and Andrew, were his first scholars or disciples. What a wonderful day it would be for them.

Andrew in his gladness went and looked for his brother Simon, who had come from Galilee with him. The two brothers had heard that John the Baptist was holding revival meetings away down at Jordan, and they had taken a few holidays from their fishing and gone down, and now that Andrew had found not only the forerunner, but the great, the promised Messiah, his first care is to find his brother and tell him.

Jesus now thought he would go away back north to Galilee, where His Home had been. And He met with another man from Galilee named Philip, and asked him to come with Him. Philip soon met another old acquaintance, Nathaniel, and told him the good news. "We have found the One of whom John the Baptist has been telling us, the One for whom Israel has looked so long, Jesus of Nazareth."

Nathaniel was surprised. He knew Nazareth, knew that it had not a very good name, and he said, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?"

Philip did not attempt to argue with Nathaniel as to what kind of a place Nazareth was. He felt that the best proof he could give Nathaniel would be to let him see and hear Jesus; so he merely answered, "Come and see."

The two came along together, Philip and Nathaniel. Jesus saw them coming, and spoke very kindly of the new comers. How do you know me, said Nathaniel, and what do you know about me. I saw you before Philip called you, was the reply, and yet Nathaniel thought he was out of sight of Jesus. He felt that this must indeed be a Divine Being. He did not think of Nazareth now, or of its ill name. The one thing that he felt, and it

swallowed up all else, was that he was now in the presence of the One who for so many hundreds of years Israel had looked for, and their prophets had spoken of, and with joy he exclaimed, "Thou art the Son of God, Thou art the King of Israel."

1. That same Jesus sees us now, though we may not see Him, and He is calling us to follow Him.

2. Andrew and Philip, so soon as they found Christ, went and brought others to Him. Have you ever tried to bring others?

3. Simon and Nathaniel, so soon as they were called, came to Christ. Have you come to Him?

26 Aug.

First Miracle of Jesus.

Les. John 21; 1-11. Col. Text John 2: 11.
Mem. vs. 1-5. Catechism Q. 90.

Last lesson we saw how four or five men found out who Christ was, just as He was leaving the Jordan to go back to Galilee. This lesson is about four days later, just after He came back.

He had been away perhaps nearly two months. He went to the Jordan, was baptized by John, then into the wilderness and to Jerusalem. Then He had gone back to the Jordan for a few days before coming back to His home.

With the few fishermen from Galilee who had found Him as the Messiah He came north again. I can fancy His mother and Joseph inquiring what kept Him away so long, or asking about John's revival services.

At all events, when He came back He found that there was a great marriage feast in progress at a village near Nazareth among some old friends of the family. His mother was there. When He came along with His friends, they, too, were asked.

There were a good many people present: the feast was long continued; these six or seven new guests would be a drain upon their supplies, and at length the wine gave out. His mother, who was probably an intimate friend of the family, knew of it. The credit of the family for hospitality was at stake. What could be done? She mentioned it to Jesus; perhaps just in confidence, as to her nearest friend; perhaps because His coming with so many friends had been the cause of its running short, and she thought He might in some way aid in the difficulty; perhaps because she had often found Him wise, and thought He might advise what to do. Little did she dream what He would do.

There were standing in the courtyard six large stone water jars, holding perhaps twenty gallons each, four or five barrels in all. Jesus told the servants to fill them with water. They did so. Then He told them to