

SERMON NOTES Sunday 14 January

sunnysidechurch

Bible passage: 1 Samuel 3.1-20; John 1.43-end

Introduction

- Both readings about key moment in people's journey of faith when they hear God call them and decide to respond

Jesus calls

- God's initiative to call Samuel, Philip and Nathanael
- It is because God loves us that we can love him (1 John 4.19)

Jesus knows

- Jesus knows the people he calls: he knows where they are to be found and their character
- "Churches are not museums that display perfect people. They are hospitals where the wounded, hurt, injured and broken find healing."

Jesus invites

- Jesus invites people to follow him – to spend time with him, learning from him, how to be like him
- He loves us as we are but loves us too much to leave us as we are

Conclusion

Response is to share the good news about Jesus with their family and friends by inviting them to 'come and see Jesus' ohn the Baptist points to Jesus: who might we point to Jesus this Christmas?

Some questions for discussion

1. Who are the people who were important in you hearing about Jesus?
2. Read John 1.43-end. What do you notice?
3. Why is it important to note that it is Jesus who calls and it is his initiative?
4. Nathanael is seen sitting under a fig tree which is a Jewish euphemism for meditating on Scripture. How might you deepen your reading of the Bible?
5. Rebecca spoke about the importance of being part of the Church for disciples of Jesus. What does it mean to you to be part of the Body of Christ? In what ways has being part of Sunnyside helped you to spend time with Jesus, learning from Jesus how to be like Jesus?
6. Read 1 Samuel 3.1-20. How does the story of Samuel deepen your understanding of being called?
7. What is God asking you to do as a result of what he has said to you through these passages? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something he wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do. Make a note of it so you don't forget!

'come and see' (John 1.46)

Why not spend some time thanking God's for calling you and asking him who you could tell about him?

Revd Rebecca Fardell