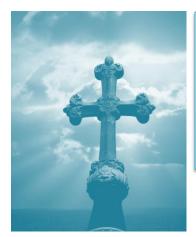
Philip "They were Called"



"Philip saith unto him, 'Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us.' Jesus saith unto him, 'Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." John 14:8, 9, 12

"I am Philip. As one of the twelve Disciples of Christ, I too was called by Him on a day I will never forget. I had been searching for this man called Jesus because I had heard so much about him. My friend, Nathanael and

I truly believed he was the Messiah our people had been waiting for such a long time. Immediately after He called me to follow Him I ran to find my friend, Nathanael, and told him I had found the long awaited Messiah.

"I never doubted that He was the Messiah. When the five thousand gathered to hear Him one day, He asked. 'Where shall we buy bread for these people?' I foolishly answered that two hundred pennyworth of break would not be sufficient for them even if everyone only took a little bit. But Andrew saved the day with a boy's two small fish and five barley loaves. Jesus showed me that money was not important, but faith was.

"Once Jesus was talking with us and trying to tell us what was going to happen to Him. He talked about God and that He was going to prepare a place for us and that He would come and take us to this place after He had prepared it. We didn't understand. He said "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.' I was confused and asked Him to show us the Father. He said to me 'He that hath seen me hath seen the Father.' Then He continued to explain and said 'Whatever you shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.' Then He talked about the Spirit and that confused us even more. Perhaps most confusing was when He said 'Yet a little while, and the world will see Me no more; but you see Me; because I live, you shall live also.' I didn't understand, but I believed.

"I just wanted a closer walk with Him. I knew I was weak, and I could falter, but I also knew that Jesus would share my burden; Jesus would make me strong.

"Í was there in the Upper Room for the Last Supper with Him and I was there when He was with us after His resurrection and His ascension from the Mount of Olives to see Him taken home to Heaven. My prayer is that you will also know my friend and Saviour, Jesus, and you will tell others of His love for all of us regardless of our color or race. When life on earth is through, Jesus will welcome all who follow Him into a Heavenly Kingdom that we cannot even begin to comprehend. He came for all of mankind so that one day we will be with Him. Praise the Lord."

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we don't have the hardships of Philip, and we have so much more assurance now than he did at that time, and yet we question. Help us to seek to walk daily with You, to ask for Your guidance, and then be willing to follow so that we may be able to tell others "The Good News" just as Philip did so many years ago. Amen

- 1. How can we be like Philip every day?
- 2. How can we simplify our lives today and tomorrow?
- 3. How can we ask Christ? How can we follow Him?
- 4. Do we really want a closer walk with Him?
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