

When Jesus Walks By

Read [John 1:35-39](#).

Before getting into the passage, let's remind one another of the nature of Jesus to appreciate what we're reading. Many people of the world do not enjoy the word because, as Paul stated in [1 Corinthians 2:13-14](#), they are not spiritual but natural persons. Yet, even those who are spiritual can struggle with their study. That's not necessarily unordinary. Not every day in the word is going to be life-changing. Not every read leaves you hits to the very core of your soul, though the word can do all the above. It can absolutely change your life. As the Hebrew writer stated in chapter 2, the word of God is like a sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit. However, it can be difficult, so it's good to remember what we're considering when we're considering the life of Christ.

Who is Jesus? He was genuine and experienced life and you and me. He had a mother. He was formed in her womb, and she gave birth to Him. We learn in [Isaiah 7:15](#), "He shall eat curds and honey when He knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good." Jesus ate food like everyone else (some say that honey was first given to children and then this butter/milk/curds, but I'm not sure). The point being - He was like the rest. He ate what others ate. He had to learn how to refuse evil and choose good. Yet, when He was found in the temple at a young age, He was perplexed at His parent's reaction when He had gone missing. "Don't you know I must be about My Father's business?" That's odd. That's not like other children. He wasn't necessarily the "tall, dark and handsome" man either. He blended in and bled just like the rest ([Isaiah 53:1ff](#)), yet His sacrifice saved the whole world. So, we're dealing with a man, yet it's not that simple. We are to keep this in mind when studying the life of Christ. His interactions with people were every day in many ways. Jesus looked like a typical Jew. If you got too close to Him in the morning, you'd smell bad breath. He didn't have a tone in His voice as you'd never heard before. He engaged in small talk. He probably had some of His mother's mannerisms. Yet, because of who He was, you'd need to pay attention because His life was one of purpose. He didn't come to climb the carpenter's ladder, though he was a carpenter. He didn't come to enjoy a physical bride, though He has a bride, the church, which is His body. He didn't come to gain in popularity, though He is well known. He came to save the world. It's who He was which made His unique. Every encounter with Jesus held weight because of who He is to the world. Think about how you'd talk about an encounter with your favorite musician, athlete, president, scientist, or actor? Even if your interaction lasted 30 seconds, you'd probably tell the story for the rest of your life. If that's true of man, what about Jesus?

There has never been, nor will there ever be, another Jesus. Which is why John said what he did when he watched Jesus walk by him. "Behold, the Lamb of God!" I love what John (the author) says about Jesus and how the word records how "the two disciples heard it." Did John say it to them, or did he state it because he was enamored with Jesus? Jesus is walking by, perhaps close enough to reach and touch Him. To a man like John, when the man Jesus walks by, you can't take your eyes off Him. All you can do is shout His name. This is what genuine love will lead to. Young sisters, not only do you need to find a man who loves Jesus,

but such a man will praise you. Do you remember the proverbial woman in [Proverbs 31](#)? It reads, "Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her." Women, wouldn't you love a husband who couldn't help but praise your beauty every time you walked into the room? You've got his love, and you love his praise.

Beautiful to proclaim it, but better to follow Him. John was in. John was following Jesus. However, it was Andrew's turn (perhaps the other disciple was John), and **salvation was passing by him**. Did you know that salvation can pass you by?

And then there's Jesus' question: "**What** are you seeking?"

"What" is an important role. It all depends on your desires and needs. If a wife, in a moment of desperation, with pleading eyes, asks her distant husband, "What are you seeking?" she's hoping for a specific answer, isn't she? She's hoping for a "who" answer, not a "what." "I want love!" may be the husband's response, but if it's not from her, her world will shatter. God wanted you to see the "genesis" of this relationship with Jesus and Andrew. "What" are you seeking? We're trying to get from a "what" to a "who." That's what's implied in the question. It would be a total failure to consider life and say, "No, I really don't care for anyone in particular other than myself. I've already found the one - it's me." So now, it's all about finding WHAT makes me happy. If it happens to be a person, it only fulfills my desires. That's why we often tell young women, "If he really loved you, then he wouldn't have asked you to do that." How embarrassing to live your life with the sole purpose of seeking selfish pleasure. Brethren, if your marriage is struggling, you need to ask the question: what am I seeking? If you are only pursuing your own good and pleasure, you've misunderstood a key component of marriage. If we are the bride of Christ, what have we learned? Jesus was seeking to bestow His love on us. He's looking to share. He's about others. Did you think that marriage was all about you? Is this what we've forgotten? So, Jesus was looking to help Andrew, but He needed him to consider the question. "What are you seeking?" Jesus was looking to fulfill his needs and desires because Jesus also wanted to enjoy eternity with him. It's a two-way street. It's genuine love.

So, I end today's message. What do you see when you see Jesus? Some people are like John - when they see Jesus, that's all that has their attention. They don't see the cute boy or girl behind Jesus. They're not distracted by the critical business connection that could take them to the next level. They're interested in something other than what is overall cheap entertainment. Nor do they care about their own personal followers as John had. They're not there for popularity. In fact, we give our fans to Jesus. For people like John, you don't take your eyes off Him when you see Jesus for who He really is. You praise Him. You follow Him. He increases while you decrease. He satisfies you.

So . . . "What are you seeking?"