

Marinating in God's Word: John 3:1-17

To meet Jesus is to be changed. So it was in the gospels, and so it is in our lives.

For further reflection on your own or in a small group, consider these questions:

- John's goal in his gospel is to introduce us to Jesus. Look back through chapter 1 and notice all the ways he does so with names, titles, and descriptions. What introductions does he add here at the close of chapter 1?
- Philip found his friend, Nathanael, and told him "we have found him" – meaning Jesus, the Messiah (v. 45). What reason does Philip cite for believing Jesus is the Messiah? What Old Testament prophecy can you think of which Jesus fulfilled?
- Philip had said, "we found," but in v. 43, it says that Jesus found Philip. Was Philip naïve about who found whom? What role did you play in finding Jesus? And what role did he play in finding you (i.e., how did he set you up to do your finding)?
- Nathanael was plain spoken, or genuine, the trait Jesus identified when he first saw Nathanael – to Nathanael's surprise. How did Jesus' recognition of this trait prepare Nathanael's heart to respond to Jesus?
- Jesus used an image from Jacob's dreamlike vision in Genesis 28 to describe what he would bring as Messiah. What do you think he meant? If heaven is open to us through Jesus, which heavenly reality would you like to see flowing down to earth about now?