

Bible Study – February 17, 2015

- 1. On the first day, John, the Baptist, testified to the Jews (1: 19 – 28 [19]). On the second day, John bore direct witness regarding Jesus [by seeing him face to face] (1: 29 – 34 [29]). On the third day, he pointed his disciples to the Messiah/led his disciples to Jesus (1: 35 – 51 [35, 36, 37]). On the basis of John's 3 days testimony how do you analyse the progressiveness and success of Testimony?**

John testified about Jesus by faith. He did his Job with diligence, integrity and faithfulness. He was not worried about difficulties and oppositions he had to face. Therefore, John was able to see the fulfillment of his witnessing. He was able to see and experience the Jesus whom he testified by not seeing.

The success of John's testimony was in leading others to the Messiah whom he understood.

- 2. In this section, one of the main themes of the book is mentioned (1: 37, 40, 43 cf. 21: 19, 22). What is the main theme addressed in these verses?**

Following Jesus and doing it with a whole heartedness. Following for right reasons. To follow Christ for our own purpose would be asking Christ to follow us – to align with us to support and advance our cause, not his. We must examine our motives for following him. Are we seeking his glory or ours? (38)

- 3. How do you understand the main theme? What does it mean in this section (1: 41, 45; 1: 39, 47)?**

- Following Jesus is finding/understanding Jesus (41, 47)
- It is living/staying with Jesus. Be under one roof (39)
- It is continuous and progressive understanding. The disciple has found the Messiah while staying with him but they will also see him in a greater level later (50, 51). Therefore as the word denotes – following – it is a continuous process. Day by day we get to know him more and more.

- 4. In this section, what can be seen as the qualifications to be a follower?**

- A heart to listen and obey by expressing faith (1: 37)
- A heart to pour out to other's what you have experienced - an other-centeredness(1: 41, 45)
- A heart to accept the changes that Jesus brings in (1: 42). Jesus saw not only who Simon was, but who he would become.
- A heart without deceit (1: 47)

- 5. If we start counting the days from 1: 19 and 29 onwards, the third day mentioned in 2: 1 is the 7th day. It seems like the special call to become followers of Jesus (the 12 Apostles) has finished in the 6th day. In the light of this how do you analyze the incident on the 7th day? In other words, what would be the results of following Jesus? (2: 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 – 11)**

- Following Jesus faithfully will lead us to see miracles (9, 11)
- True discipleship will help one to see the Master's glory (11)
- Faithfull following is doing the Will of the Master (5)
- Faithfull following is waiting for the Master's timing (4)
- Faithfull following is believing Master's Word and unquestionably obeying it (7, 8)

- 6. How do the Church can be good followers of Jesus?**

- By faithfully and whole heartedly doing what has been entrusted on us
- By revealing Christ through our experiences and testimonies.
- By setting up the right priorities.
- By knowing Jesus progressively and daily
- By accepting the changes the Master brings in
- By pouring out to others what we have received and experienced
- By revealing the Mater's glory in and through our life
- By keeping up a sincere intention