­Jesus Relates to the Lost sermon for 10-22-17

Relates = to have or establish a relationship: interact, to respond especially favorably, to understand and like or have sympathy for someone or something

**Jesus longs to have a relationship with those who don’t know Him; He responds with favor, understanding, and sympathy for those who are lost to His love.**

Jesus with Andrew and Peter

**John 1:35-42** (NKJV)

**35**Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. **36**And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, “Behold the Lamb of God!”

**37**The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. **38**Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, “What do you seek?”

They said to Him, “Rabbi” (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), “where are You staying?”

**39**He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour).

**40**One of the two who heard John *speak,* and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. **41**He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). **42**And he brought him to Jesus.

Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, “You are Simon the son of Jonah.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+1%3A35-42&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-26087a)] You shall be called Cephas” (which is translated, A Stone).


# Matthew 4:18-20 (NKJV)

**18**And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. **19**Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” **20**They immediately left *their* nets and followed Him.

Jesus with Philip and Nathanael

**43**The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, “Follow Me.” **44**Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. **45**Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

**46**And Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?”

Philip said to him, “Come and see.”

**47**Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!”

**48**Nathanael said to Him, “How do You know me?”

Jesus answered and said to him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.”

**49**Nathanael answered and said to Him, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”

**50**Jesus answered and said to him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” **51**And He said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter[[j](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+1&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-26096j)] you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

* Notice…
	+ **Jesus was around those who didn’t know Him, but were seeking something spiritual.**
		- Being like Jesus is not always surrounding yourself with sinners, but we find Jesus always winding up around sinners who wanted something more. They were seeking God.
		- **Allow yourself a chance to meet seekers.**
	+ **Jesus noticed who was following Him and invited them closer.**
		- Jesus was aware of who was watching, who was following.
		- Jesus asked the men what they sought; allowing the men to tell Him what they sought gave them the chance to pursue Jesus or reject Him right off the bat.
			* When the men asked Jesus where He was staying, they were giving Him permission to speak into their lives.
			* Jesus graciously invited them into His personal space.
		- **Be aware of seekers that are trying to get closer to you, and kindly invite them in.**
	+ **Jesus knew how to speak with grace to those who were lost.**
		- Jesus not only spent the evening with Andrew, He spoke blessings over Peter.
			* Jesus spoke what wasn’t as though it was.
				+ Peter and Andrew were the sons of a man named Jonas, which means dove, signifying timidity and fear. Jesus declared that Peter was a rock! Someone that could be relied upon and built upon.
				+ **We must look past where people come from and what they act like now to see the new creature that God wants to transform them into.**
	+ **Jesus spoke in a way that was understandable.**
		- When talking to fishermen, Jesus told them that He would make them into fishers of men.
		- When talking to a devout Israelite like Nathanael, He referred to Jacob’s dream in Genesis 28:10-16 where Jacob saw angels ascending from earth and descending from heaven on a stairway. He called the place he had the dream Bethel which means house of God.
			* **Genesis 28:10-16** (NLT)
				+ Jesus was telling Nathanael that he would see God’s house established through Jesus and that Jesus was the “place” where he would meet God.
	+ **Jesus could operate in the Holy Spirit manifestation gifts.**
		- Jesus prophesied to Peter his new name and received a word of knowledge about Nathanael being under the fig tree earlier that day. Both of these Holy Ghost manifestations were gifts to Peter and Nathanael that convinced them that Jesus was the Savior and God.


# Colossians 4:2-6 (NKJV)

**2**Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; **3**meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, **4**that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

**5**Walk in wisdom toward those *who are* outside, redeeming the time. **6***Let* your speech always *be* with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

How to relate to the Lost

1. Pray
	1. Being vigilant = “to be watchful in prayer” = like a watchman on the wall responsible for those in the city.
		1. **Pray with detailed care knowing that your prayer is most effective and necessary.**
			1. Pray specific.
			2. Pray consistent.
			3. Pray responsibly.
			4. Pray gratefully.
	2. Pray for open doors
		1. **There is a divine partnership that we must engage in if we are to win souls for Christ; God opens the doors and we walk through them.**
		2. Don’t do God’s part, do your part.
		3. **There is a cost to doing your part.**
			1. **Preparation.**
			2. **Persecution.**
			3. **Perseverance.**
2. Understand people

* 1. Know what life is like

* 1. Be culturally relevant

* 1. Listen

* 1. Speak with grace and kindness

