

Gospel Reflection

In today's first reading, Samuel hears the Lord's voice, but mistakes it for Eli's. Fortunately, Eli is familiar enough with the ways of the Lord to help Samuel make his response.

As we seek the Lord, it is good to have someone like Eli who is familiar with the Lord's voice. There are many voices that bid us "Follow this way," and the Lord's call is not always easy to discern. There are people, too, who would pretend to know the Lord and draw others to themselves rather than to God.

Eli could have taken advantage of Samuel's naïveté and claimed it was he who had summoned Samuel. But Eli claims neither to be God nor to speak for God. Instead, he encourages Samuel to listen for himself.

Perhaps the most profound line in all of today's readings is Jesus' question of the two disciples who begin to follow him. "What are you looking for?" he asks plainly and directly.

Finding the Messiah was partly a matter of what one was looking for. If one lived with the expectation of the Messiah's coming, there would be a certain alertness, a certain watchfulness to life, and a certain openness to God's movements. The two disciples had followed John the Baptizer, but as soon as John pointed to Jesus, they were ready to follow him.

It has been said that what we find in life is pretty much what we have sought. "What are you looking for?" is a challenging question for each of us to ask of ourselves. Our honest answer to this question can reveal much about our faith and our values. Those who, like Andrew and the other disciple, are looking for the Messiah will find the Messiah, dwelling now, as then, among the people. "Come and see!"

KEEPING FAITH FIRST FAMILY FUN

John 1:35-42

D L O H E B V B B I P Q K
 B I F K I V N S R C S O W
 R T S I R H C L O A D Z Y
 A T R C S O E O T N S K B
 W F J A I K R M H D F I G
 S I M O N P E T E R O C I
 M P V A H S L H R E L R H
 I C K J S N L E Y W L I O
 O E S I K O J A S F O L C
 Z P A B W X M R T V W Q X
 U H X B P X L D I E E G G
 U A L A M B O F G O D M S
 K S A R Y I D N V N X F T

Find these words from the Gospel passage.

ANDREW	BEHOLD	BROTHER
CEPHAS	CHRIST	DISCIPLES
FOLLOWED	HEARD	JOHN
LAMB OF GOD	MESSIAH	RABBI
SIMON PETER	SON	TRANSLATED

Disciple's Reflection & Questions of the Week

*The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
1/18/2009*

*John 1:35-42
Faith-Sharing
Questions of the Week*



Our Lady of the Assumption

435 Berkeley Ave.
Claremont, CA
www.olaclaremont.org

Call to Prayer

We begin by calling upon God:

**In the Name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the
Holy Spirit, Amen.**

*We then pause for a moment to listen with
our hearts to this week's Gospel passage...*

The Word of God: *John 1:35-42*

The Gospel according to John

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?"

They said to him, "Rabbi" - which **translated** means Teacher, - "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they went and saw where Jesus was staying and they stayed with him that day.

It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the **Messiah**" - which

is translated Christ. Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas" - which is translated Peter.

The Gospel of the Lord



Gospel Glossary

Translated: The translations of Hebrew terms into their Greek equivalents found throughout John's gospel suggest that the author of John was writing for a Greek speaking audience.

Messiah: This term, taken from the Hebrew word masiah ("anointed one") which transliterates into the Greek as messias, is only found in John's gospel. Everywhere else, the Greek translation christos is used.

Faith Sharing

Questions of the Week

- When have I heard God's call?
- What is God calling me to?
- When has someone else helped me to discern God's call?
- How has responding to God's call changed my life?

Closing Prayer

Almighty, and ever-present Father,
Your watchful care reaches
from end to end and orders all things
in such power that even the tensions
and the tragedies of sin cannot frustrate
your loving plans. Help us to embrace
your will, give us the strength to follow
your call, so that your truth may live in
our hearts and reflect peace to those
who believe in your love.

Amen.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time