

HOW DID YOU FIND ME?

Jesus reaches people through people

MAIN TEXT: ACTS 19:1–7 | KING JAMES VERSION

GO • SEE • LEAD

Opening — The question people ask

“People ask me, ‘Bishop, how did you find me? How did you get my email?’”

[LOOK UP • Tell one short, real story about reaching someone.]

“I’m out looking for people to encourage, people to pray with, and people to invite to Jesus. I believe Jesus is using me to reach you.”

An invitation can be a small thing in your hand—and a turning point in somebody else’s life.

ASK: Who reached out to you when you needed somebody?

1. GO — People matter enough to reach for

Acts 19:1 — And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,

- Paul went where people were. He found disciples along the way.
- Our everyday conversations are opportunities.

Luke 19:10 — For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

- Jesus came seeking. We reach out with His love.
- Make the call. Begin the conversation. Give the invitation.

A person should not have to find our church before they experience our love.

ASK: Who might hear about Jesus this week if I make the first move?

2. SEE — Jesus saw you before the invitation

JOHN 1:43–48 • KJV

43 The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me.

44 Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

45 Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

46 And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.

47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!

48 Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.

- Jesus finds Philip. Philip finds Nathanael.
- Nathanael asks: “How do You know me?”
- Jesus saw him before Philip called him.

[LOOK UP • Pause here.]

Philip brought the invitation. Jesus already saw the man.

- People may know your name without knowing your burden.
- You can be surrounded by people and still feel unseen.
- Jesus sees the person behind the face.

You may be new to this room, but you are not unknown to God.

ASK: Could God use your attention to remind someone that they matter?

SEE — The Shepherd seeks the one

LUKE 15:4–6 • KJV

4 What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?

5 And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

6 And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.

Hold this picture before the people

- The shepherd notices one is missing.
- He goes after that one.
- He carries it home with joy.

The one who is missing still matters to the Shepherd.

[PAUSE • Let that thought settle.]

ASK: Do we notice who is missing—or only who is sitting beside us?

[LOOK INTO THE CAMERA • Include those watching from home.]

“Wherever you are watching today, you matter. If you need prayer or help taking your next step with Jesus, reach out to us.”

Transition to the next point

“Paul found people—and then helped them grow. Let’s keep reading.”

3. LEAD — Help people take their next step

ACTS 19:2–7 • KJV

2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

7 And all the men were about twelve.

- Paul asks questions and listens. He learns what they have been taught.
- He points them to Jesus. They are baptized in Jesus' name.
- The Holy Ghost comes upon them.

Paul found disciples—and cared enough to help them grow.

These people were already called disciples. They still needed further teaching.

- Listen to their story. Open the Scriptures.
- Pray with them. Walk with them as they follow Jesus.

An invitation opens a conversation. Discipleship means walking with someone.

ASK: What is my next step with Jesus—and who can I help take theirs?

CLOSING & PRAYER

Found people can reach people

John 1:46 — And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.

- Jesus found Philip. Philip reached Nathanael.
- Now we can invite someone.

“Somebody invited you. Somebody prayed for you. Somebody took time with you. Now whose name is on your heart?”

[LOOK UP • Pause. Let them think of one person.]

You do not have to know every answer to say, “Come and see.”

Invitation — In the room and watching online

- Need to come to Jesus? Respond today.
- Need prayer or help growing? Let us walk with you.
- Already following Jesus? Reach out to one person this week.

Who might take their first step toward Jesus because you took your first step toward them?

Closing prayer

“Lord Jesus, thank You for seeing us and loving us. Help us notice people, listen with compassion, and speak Your truth.”

“Give us courage to reach out and patience to walk with people. Lead us in our next step with You. Amen.”