

Spend Time With Him First

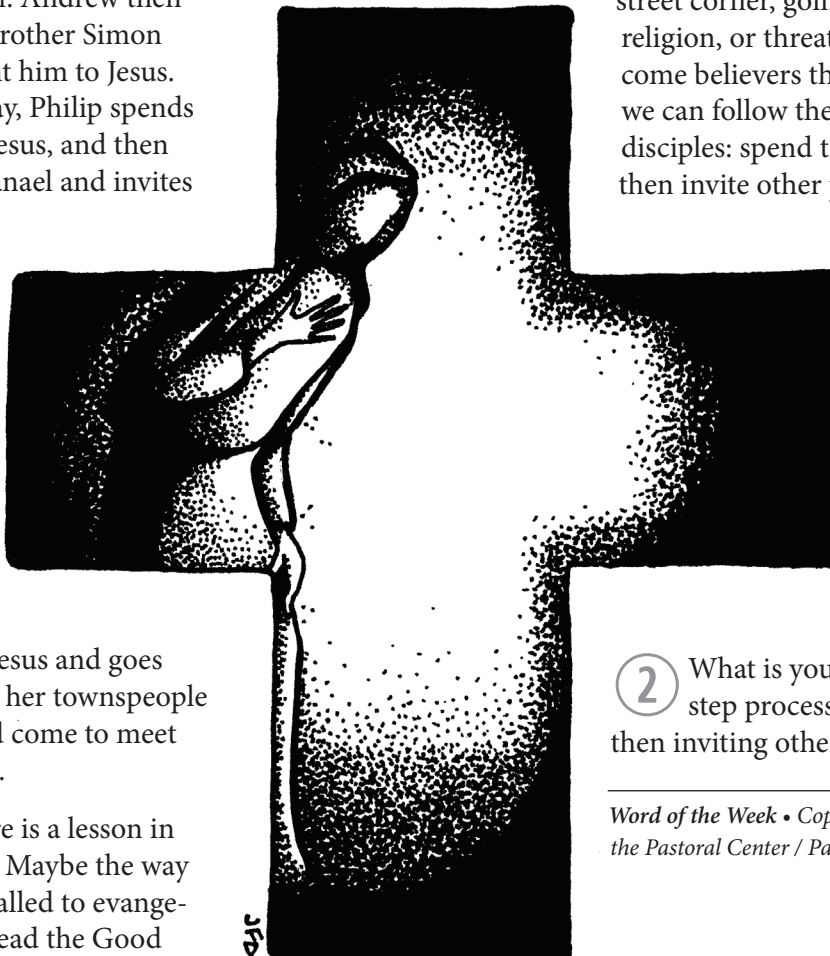
This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Samuel 3:3b-10, 19 - Revelation to Samuel
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20 - Against sexual immorality
- ▶ John 1:35-42 - The first disciples

The stories of discipleship in John's gospel follow a pattern. People come to Jesus, are brought to him, or are introduced to him by someone they know. They spend time with him for a while. They talk with him, listen to his teachings, and watch how he lives his life. Once they have spent some time with him, they go and bring others to him so that they can meet him. The cycle continues.

We see this pattern in today's gospel when Andrew and another unnamed person spend time with Jesus after John the Baptist introduced them. Andrew then found his brother Simon and brought him to Jesus. The next day, Philip spends time with Jesus, and then finds Nathanael and invites him to come meet Jesus. A couple of chapters later the woman at the well talks with Jesus and goes away to tell her townspeople they should come to meet him as well.

Maybe there is a lesson in here for us. Maybe the way we are all called to evangelize—to spread the Good



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“As he watched Jesus walk by, he said, ‘Behold the Lamb of God.’”

Sheepish Question:
When was a time I realized Jesus' presence in retrospect? How did it affect our relationship?

News—isn't by preaching with a megaphone on a street corner, going door-to-door to talk about religion, or threatening that if people don't become believers they won't be saved. Maybe instead we can follow the two simple steps taken by the disciples: spend time with Jesus ourselves, and then invite other people to come and experience him for themselves.

Questions of the Week

- 1 Have you ever thought of yourself as having a responsibility to share your faith with others? If so, what does that mean to you?
- 2 What is your reaction to this idea of a two-step process: spending time with Jesus and then inviting others to get to know him?