Year B - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
John 1:35-42

They saw where Jesus lived, and they stayed with him.

On one occasion John was with two of his followers.
When he saw Jesus walking by,
he said, "Here is the Lamb of God!"
John's two followers heard him,
and they went with Jesus.
When Jesus turned and saw them,
he asked, "What do you want?"
They answered, "Rabbi, where do you live?"
The Hebrew word "Rabbi" means "Teacher."
Jesus replied, "Come and see!"
It was already about four o'clock in the afternoon
when they went with him and saw where he lived.
So they stayed on for the rest of the day.
One of the two men who had heard John and had gone with Jesus
was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter.
The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother and tell him,
"We have found the Messiah!"
The Hebrew word "Messiah" means the same as the Greek word "Christ."
Andrew brought his brother to Jesus.
And when Jesus saw him, he said,
"Simon son of John, you will be called Cephas."
This name can be translated as "Peter."



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Jesus calls his first disciples

Introduction

- In John's gospel the story of the first disciples happens the day after the Baptism of Jesus. They were followers of John the Baptist but when they heard John call Jesus "the Lamb of God" they left John and went with Jesus.
- In the final verse Jesus gives Simon a new name, Cephas which is Aramaic for 'rock'. "Peter" is the Greek word for 'rock'.

Message

- Messiah means 'the anointed one'. In the Old Testament, kings were anointed for their role, so were priests and prophets. The term was often used in anticipation of the one who would come to rescue the people of Israel. Here Andrew is saying to Simon - he is here, we have found him!
- "What do you want?" This simple question that Jesus asks the first disciple Jesus also asks of us. The problem is that most of the time, most of us don't really know what we want.
- Are we like the disciples? They want to spend time with Jesus and get to know him.
- The invitation "come and see" that Jesus gives to the new disciples is an invitation to us also.
- Jesus invites us to follow, listen, and remain with him and come to see that he is what we need. This is a life long process.

Discussion

- Begin by checking with the children if there are any words or phrases that they don't understand. Also check if there are any words or phrases that stood out for them
- I wonder if you have ever met someone for the first time and you just want to be friends with them and spend a lot of time with them
- In today's gospel, we heard about some friends of Jesus who were so excited and happy to meet him that they ran and got more people to come and listen. This is how it was with Jesus. People knew that Jesus was very special.
- I wonder who pointed Jesus out to his own followers *(John the Baptist)*
- I wonder what John the Baptist's followers did *(they listened and followed Jesus)*
- I wonder what Andrew did after listening to Jesus *(he told his brother Simon and invited him to come and listen to Jesus)*
- I wonder how we can be like Andrew and tell others about Jesus and about God's love for everyone *(through prayer, being kind to others, bringing Jesus to others by our words and actions*

