FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ORILE IGANMU

Praising the Father, Raising His Children, Reaching the World

Found to Find Others

Preacher:	Rev. Olubayo Afolabi Akanmu
Date:	January 18, 2026
Scripture:	John 1:43-46
Description:	This sermon encourages Christians to be more evangelistic as they relate with friends, relatives, colleagues and others in different places. As Philip found Nathaniel so should Christians find their friends for the Master.

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness" - 2 Timothy 3:16

Sermon Transcript

Introduction

The greatest way to prove and express our love for our friends is to show them the way out of eternal destruction. God demonstrated his love for humanity in sending Jesus Christ into the world to die as a propitiation for our sins and thus save us from eternal destruction. Before his ascension into heaven, Jesus raised and empowered his disciples for world evangelisation with the ultimate goal of expressing the love of God to all generations. We are the contemporary disciples of Jesus Christ. We are mandated to testify of the saving grace of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ before our families and friends.

The principle of finding has been operational since Genesis. When Adam and Eve sinned and were hiding God found them. In calling his disciples, Jesus found Philip. Each and everyone of us are members of God’s family

today because a disciple found us somewhere sometimes ago just as Jesus found Philip. Philip found Nathanael. We have been found. How can we find others? We do that through personal testimony.

How to expand God's Kingdom through Personal Testimony

1. Find (John 1:45a): Phillip found his friend - Nathaniel. Who should we find for Christ. We have the duty to find our families, friends, neighbours and colleagues, etc. who are lost in the wilderness of sin. These are people we relate with nearly every time. We know them, but God did not know through Jesus Christ. Some of them professed to be Christians, however, they are at home on Sundays doing things that have no eternal value. They need Jesus. We have to find them for Christ. These people did not know they are lost. We find them by revelation.
2. Inform (John 1:45b): Lack of information leads to deformity. We have the duty to inform those we have found about Christ. It is not enough to identify their spiritual loss we have to inform them of the love of Christ. This we do in preaching the gospel message to them.
3. Invite (John 1:46: Anyone found for Christ should be brought to Him. When we found a friend and inform them about Christ, we must not stop there. We have to invite them to church where they will get to know Jesus more and become like him through discipleship.
4. Revelation (John 1:47-48): There is a limit to what a man can tell about God and his power. People stay in the church not because of what someone told them but because of how God has revealed himself to them in that place. Revelation makes discipleship meaningful and impactful in the life of believers.
5. Testimony producing testimony (John 1:49): a true disciple of Christ has story to tell. His conversion experience; his experience of God's grace and goodness are more than enough stories for a believer to tell. There are other friends who need to hear the story of the new disciples.

Conclusion

He who is found by Jesus is expected to find his friends, families, neighbours, colleagues and others for Christ. Having been found by Jesus, Phillip found his friend - Nathaniel. Finding your friend for Jesus does not cost so much. You don't have to travel miles before you can evangelize.