Everyday FAITH Family Page

Law/Gospel

My sinful nature does not recognize Jesus as the Son of God. I futilely try to manipulate Jesus into being what I want. Jesus is the only true God, the Savior who rescues me from sin, death, and the devil. He is the true Jacob's ladder upon whom the angels will come down and escort me to my heavenly home.

Bible Words

Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" John 1:49

Fun Facts

"Son of Man" is a phrase used only by Jesus in the New Testament and only to refer to Himself. Any faithful Jewish person would recognize this messianic language from the Old Testament.

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

John 1:43–51

Q uestions sometimes define generations. Baby boomers ask, "Where were you when President Kennedy was shot?" Generation Xers discuss the Challenger space disaster, and millennials ask about the Twin Towers.

Perhaps Jesus first disciples' asked one another, "How did you meet Jesus?" What vivid memories and lively discussions they could share!

Philip, whom Jesus later chose as one of the Twelve, met Jesus in Galilee. Philip excitedly told his friend Nathanael about Jesus of Nazareth. Skeptical, Nathanael replied, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip replied, "Come and see."

Jesus greeted Nathanael, saying, "Behold, an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" As God, Jesus knows all things. Nathanael apparently agreed with the assessment. He asked how Jesus knew him. Jesus replied that He had seen Nathanael under a fig tree before Philip found him.

Impressed, Nathanael called Jesus the Son of God and King of Israel. Jesus told him that he would see even greater things. He would see the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man. With these words, Jesus told Nathanael that He was the Messiah come down from heaven, as foreshadowed in their forefather Jacob's dream (Genesis 28:10–17).

Questions Kids Ask

Kids ask their parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers, and others many questions.

"Why is the moon round? Why is the sky blue?"

"Why doesn't our dog eat the same food we do?"

"Why do I have to do that?"

No question is more important than the one Nathanael asked, "Who is Jesus?" Help your children know our Savior by pointing to Jesus when these kinds of questions come up. Take them to worship and religious education classes. Read devotions and children's Bibles together, pray, and trust the Lord as you all continue to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).

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