

▶ LESSON 5.2: NATHANAEEL, JAMES, JOHN

STUDENTS STUDIED:

- » John 1:45–51
- » John 1:35–39; 2:11; 21:24–25;
1 John 1:1–4
- » Matthew 17:1–8; 26:36–46;
Mark 5:36–43; 9:2–8; 14:32–42;
Luke 8:51; Acts 12:1–2
- » Mark 3:14–19; John 11:6–16;
14:5; 20:24–25, 28

STUDENTS MEMORIZED AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING VERSES:

- » 1 John 1:3*
- » Matthew 5:16
- » Hebrews 11:4

ADDITIONAL READING:

- » 1 John 1:1–4

Students Learned the Following Definitions:

ISRAEL: God's chosen people, descendants of Jacob (Genesis 49:2, 16, 28); Israel is the name God assigned to Jacob and his descendants after their encounter at Peniel (Genesis 32:27–30).

FELLOWSHIP: to share what is held in common; we get our words communion and community from the biblical word *koinonia*.

MARTYR: a person who dies for the sake of their faith

DOUBTING THOMAS: a phrase regarding Thomas's belief in the resurrection (John 20:26–29). Although he doubted, Thomas was a faithful disciple and apostle in the Gospels and Church history.

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4
Students examined humanity's deep need for Jesus.	Students learned that nothing in this world compares to Jesus.	Students delved into what it means to know Jesus well.	Students realized that as sons and daughters of God, their mistakes don't define them; Jesus does.
They looked at the disciple Nathanael and how Jesus called him a man of faith. They saw Nathanael's faith grow when he accepted Jesus' call for him to become one of the twelve apostles.	They reviewed the life of John. They saw how once John tasted what life was like with Jesus, nothing else compared. He wanted to learn more about Jesus, which led to him sharing about Jesus with others.	They read about Jesus' inner circle of friends: Peter, James and John — especially James. They examined their own lives and asked themselves how well they know Jesus.	They recapped the story of Thomas, looked at how he got his nickname and discovered his statement that showed his saving faith in Jesus.

IDENTITY INSIGHT:

I am a child of the living God. Jesus knows everything about me — both my faith and my failures — and still calls me friend.

Students circled which verse they chose to memorize.

1 JOHN 1:3*

MATTHEW 5:16

HEBREWS 11:4

DISCUSSION

► SHARE

As a group, read Philippians 2:12–13 and discuss what it means to embark on a spiritual journey with Jesus as the focal point. Share one way you have grown spiritually since Jesus saved your life. Then invite others in the group to share their experiences, too.

► ASK

Peter, James and John were part of Jesus' inner circle of friends. They got to know him on a deeper level than most. Ask the group, "On a scale of 1 through 10, how well do you know Jesus and why do you rate yourself that way?"

► ACT

Encourage each student to think of one person in their life who needs Jesus. Then gather in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to empower your students to share the Gospel with the people they thought of.

TEACHING NOTES:
