

Jesus Surprises Nathanael

John 1:43-51

Bible Point: Jesus knows all about us

We're going to begin with a fun game to see how well we know one another! I would like you to think about a friend and try to guess their favorite color, song, and food.

Were you able to? Maybe you found that you really didn't know everything about your friend. We were just guessing, weren't we? But Jesus knows all about us. He knows all our favorite things, what we're thinking, how we're feeling, and everything else about us! Today we'll learn about a man named Nathanael who found out how much Jesus knew about him.

Our story comes from the Bible. It is found in the part, or book, of the Bible called John. John was one of the special helpers of Jesus. Jesus traveled to many places to help people and tell them about God. But Jesus wanted some helpers as he traveled and talked about God.

Jesus was visiting a town called Bethany. He decided to go to another town called Bethsaida, near a lake called Galilee. Before Jesus left Bethany, He met a man named Philip. Philip was the kind of helper Jesus wanted. So, Jesus told Philip, "Follow Me."

Philip was excited about being Jesus' helper. He went to find his friend Nathanael. Philip found his friend Nathanael sitting under a fig tree. It was a nice shady place where Nathanael could study. He liked to study the Scriptures, God's Word.



Philip said, "Nathanael! I just met the person Moses talked about long ago. He's the one all the Scriptures tell about—God's Son! It is Jesus from Nazareth!" Nathanael was not sure that what Philip said was true. Could he have really met such an important person? If Philip had, how could this person be from the city of Nazareth? Nazareth was not an important place at all. But because Philip was so excited, Nathanael agreed to go meet Jesus.

Jesus saw the men coming. Even though Jesus had never met Nathanael, Jesus knew all about him. Jesus said, "Nathanael, you are a man from Israel who always tells the truth." This surprised Nathanael. He had never met Jesus before. "How do you know me?" he asked. Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip talked to you."

Now Nathanael knew what Philip said was true! Jesus was very special. "You are the Son of God," said Nathanael. He became one of Jesus' helpers, too. Jesus knew all about Nathanael. Jesus knows all about us, too. Jesus saw Nathanael—he saw him on the inside and on the outside. Like that, Jesus knows all about us. He's the best friend we could ever have, and he wants you to know him, too!

Jesus Knows Me Craft:



Supplies:

white paper
white crayon
watercolor paints
paintbrush
cup for water

Instructions: Using the white crayon write the words “Jesus knows all about me! Jesus loves me” on the white paper. You can add anything to your drawing! Next paint over all the paper with watercolor paint to reveal what was hidden from your sight!

Prayer:

Dear God,

Help us not be afraid because you know all about us. Thank you for knowing us so well. Help us think nice things about others because you know all our thoughts, and help us tell others all about you.

In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

God Made Me Sheet: God made you special, print out the following sheet and fill on all the things about you.

I PRAISE YOU
BECAUSE I AM
FEARFULLY
AND
WONDERFULLY
MADE

I AM

I LOVE
TO

GOD MADE

YEARS
OLD

MY HAIR IS

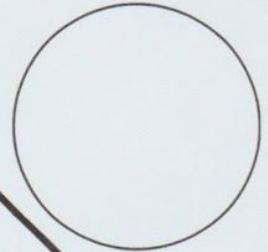
MY EYES ARE

MY FAVORITE
FOOD IS

I LIVE IN

WITH MY FAMILY

WHEN I GROW UP I WANT TO BE



GOD
made.