



SERMON GUIDE

March 1, 2026

for Groups & Personal Devotion

Who Is This Guy? | [John 1:35–42](#)

READ

- Read [John 1:35–42](#) aloud. As you read, pay attention to specific words or phrases that stand out. Pause and sit with the passage for a moment (don't rush!). Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to guide your time in the Word.
- **Background & Context**
 - John's account of Jesus' life and ministry is unique among the four gospels. The first part of chapter 1 opens with the well-known phrase, "In the beginning was the Word..." This is an obvious reference to Genesis 1 when God created everything by His spoken word. It also establishes that Jesus—God the Son—has always preexisted creation along with God the Father and God the Spirit. He was *with* God (distinct), but also *was* God (divine). Jesus is God's tangible revelation: *Emmanuel, God with us*.
 - After John's poetic introduction, he immediately shifts to several scenes that capture these personal, intimate encounters with Jesus. One by one as people encounter Jesus, they make some statement about who he is. In John 1 alone, Jesus is given seven titles: the Lamb of God, Son of God, Rabbi, Messiah, King of Israel, Jesus of Nazareth, and the Son of Man. In biblical numerology, the number seven most often represents completion, perfection, or divine fullness. Each encounter with Jesus reveals something about His nature, character, or divine mission.
- At the beginning of John's Gospel, little was known or understood about Jesus or His ministry. He was just beginning to reveal Himself to those He encountered. Now, with this context, read [John 1:35–42](#) aloud again.

EXAMINE

1. Jesus is given a few titles or names in the passage. Identify them and discuss or reflect on each one. How does each title or name give insight into the fullness of Jesus as fully God or fully man?
2. Every encounter with Jesus reveals something about His nature, character, or divine mission. What does this passage and encounter illuminate about Him?
3. Every encounter with Jesus reveals something about the people with whom He engages. What does this encounter reveal about His audience in the passage?

APPLY

1. Would you say you regularly recognize or reflect upon Jesus with the various titles or names He is given in this passage? Which title/name do you tend to identify or associate Him with most? Why?
2. Which title or name do you feel God's Spirit prompting you to acknowledge or meditate on more in your daily encounters with Jesus? As you walk with Jesus this week, speak to Him as _____ or _____, etc.
3. Every encounter with Jesus reveals something to us in our personal lives. How does this passage uniquely challenge and speak to you in your current season of life, circumstance, and personal journey of faith?

PRAY

- Pray through the passage and your discussion or personal reflections. Ask God to transform your heart and mind according to how He has spoken to you through His Word.
- Pray similar encouragements for one another or for the closest spiritual relationships in your life.