**January 14, 2024 John 1:43-51**

***A Dream Team***

**Scripture:** John 1:43-51 NRSV

*(43) The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." (44) Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. (45) Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." (46) Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." (47) When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" (48) Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." (49) Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" (50) Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." (51) And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."*

**Notes:**

1. Jesus passed by John the ***Baptist***, and John told the others, *“Behold, the Lamb of God!”*
   1. Do these two men seem like the type of individuals with the ***right*** ***stuff*** to play on God’s dream team?
   2. Jesus ***chose*** James and John (sons of Zebedee), Matthew a tax collector, Andrew, Simon, Philip, Nathanael, Doubting Thomas, Thaddeus (also known as Judas son of James), James the Less, Simon the Zealot and, of course, Judas Iscariot, .
   3. Jesus picked twelve ***ordinary*** men.

*For you see your calling, brothers, that not many are wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, and not many noble; but God chose the foolish things of the world that he might put to shame those who are wise. God chose the weak things of the world, that he might put to shame the things that are strong; and God chose the lowly things of the world, and the things that are despised… that no flesh should boast before God.”* 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

1. God picks the most ***unlikely*** individuals to do his bidding.
   1. Consider ***Gideon*** in victory over the mighty Midianites.  Judges 6:11
   2. ***Elijah***, one of the greatest prophets of all time.

*“Isn’t this he who in Jerusalem made havoc of those who called on this name? And he had come here intending to bring them bound before the chief priests!”* Acts 9:21

* 1. Yet, ***Paul*** followed in the footsteps of Jesus and became one the church’s leading spokesmen,

1. The work of the kingdom falls to those who ***share*** the gift of God’s ***love*** .
   1. God has chosen ***you*** to play on his dream team.
   2. It’s all about **winning** the world for Christ.
   3. Keep ***working*** for Christ, towards the victory in His kingdom.
   4. Keep doing the ***right*** things for the ***right*** reasons.
   5. Give of your best to the ***Master***.