

The Disciple under a Fig Tree

Storyteller: *Set out the figtree model a little ways over to your left. Lay the Nathanael figure under it. Pause a moment, then pick up the Jesus doll and hold it out for the children to see...*

John 1:43-51

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."

Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 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."

Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

Philip said to him, "Come and see."

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!"

Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" J

Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you."

Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these."

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."

Jesus travelled from place to place, walking. *Hold the Jesus doll in your left hand and move it "walking" past Nathanael and the fig tree, until it is right in front of you. Keep some distance between Nathanael and Jesus, and avoid drawing any attention to Nathanael.* One day, on the way to Galilee, he met a man named Philip and said to him, "Follow me". *Pick up the Philip figure in your right hand and hold him beside Jesus as if they are walking along together for a short way.*

Lay the Jesus figure back in the basket. Move the Philip figure back to Nathanael. Philip went and found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found the person that Moses and the Prophets wrote about: Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." *Pick up the Nathanael doll.* Nathanael said to him "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said, come and see

Put both dolls in your left hand, and pick up the Jesus doll in your right hand. When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said "Here is a true son of our ancestor Israel – and he isn't dishonest!" Nathanael said "How do you know me?" Jesus said "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you. Nathanael said "Teacher! You are the Son of God and the King of Israel!" Jesus said "Do you believe me just because I told you that I saw you under a fig tree? You will see something even greater! You will see the heavens open, and angels going up and coming down on the Son of Man!"

Story Materials

- Jesus wire-armature doll
- Philip wire-armature doll
- Nathanael wire-armature doll
- Fig tree model