

**A Skeptical Encounter -
Nathanael**
Message 2

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► **Outline**

"You are the God who sees me." She also said, "Have I truly seen the One who sees me?"
Genesis 16:13b (NLT)

A. Introduction

An encounter with Christ _____
skepticism.

B. Skepticism is challenged when I...

1. Confront my _____
and _____.
(John 1:43-46a. C/R: Psalm 139:23-24; Romans 12:3;
2 Corinthians 13:5; James 2:1-10)

2. Confirm and investigate God's _____.
(John 1:45,46b. C/R: Proverbs 18:2; Acts 17:11;
2 Timothy 3:16)

C. Skepticism is removed when Christ...

1. Responds to _____ nature.
(John 1:47-48. C/R: Genesis 16:13; Psalm 139:13; Jeremiah
1:5)
2. Reveals _____ nature.
(John 1:49-51. C/R: Genesis 28:12; John 8:12;
Romans 1:20)

► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit brookwoodchurch.org/adults.

Conversation Starter

Name something that's been difficult for you to understand.

Begin your study with prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Then ask God for insight and direction as you study and reflect on this week's lesson.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Read [John 1:43-51](#).

1. What motivated Philip to look for Nathanael? What did he say to him, and how did Nathanael respond?
2. Would you say you're more curious like Philip, or more skeptical like Nathanael? How does this impact your relationship with God?
3. What different declarations did each of the disciples make? How do these statements help you understand who Jesus is and what He came to accomplish?
4. How did Jesus respond to Nathanael's skepticism? What does this tell you about Jesus?
5. How do you usually respond to other people's skepticism about Jesus? What does this say about you?

6. Think of someone you know who has significant doubts and questions about Christianity. Name tangible ways you can help them *come and see* Jesus.
7. What consistent themes appear in [John 1:43-51](#), and how do they help you better understand what it means to be a follower of Christ?
8. How did Nathanael's encounter with Jesus change him?
9. Pause and ask God how He wants you to respond to this week's lesson.

Spiritual Practice

A spiritual practice is something we do to interrupt our usual thoughts, feelings and patterns, enabling us to move more deeply into the life of Christ.

Read [John 1:43-51](#) out loud. Which words or phrases stand out to you? Keep these words with you all week.

Memory Verse

Thereafter, Hagar used another name to refer to the LORD, who had spoken to her. She said, "You are the God who sees me." She also said, "Have I truly seen the One who sees me?"

[Genesis 16:13 \(NLT\)](#)

Daily Reading

Day 1: [Psalm 139:23-24](#)

Day 4: [Hebrews 1:1-4](#)

Day 2: [James 2:1-10](#)

Day 5: [Psalm 139:1-12](#)

Day 3: [2 Timothy 3:14-17](#)

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, July 18, we'll continue our series *Encounters with Christ*. To prepare read [Luke 10:25-37](#).