



Looking in the Wrong Place

Read: John 1:35-42

This Christmas I had the opportunity to spend some time with my nieces and nephews. At one point I found my nephew Dominic frustrated by his vain search for something that appeared to be under the couch. I knelt down beside him and asked, "What are you looking for?" He curtly responded, "the ball". He wanted to play hockey but couldn't do so until the ball was located. Having seen it earlier, I got up, walked across the room, and retrieved it from behind a chair.

This is the exact same question Jesus asks his disciples, "What are you looking for?" Each of us is looking for something in life. We are all seeking satisfaction in one place or another. Often when we don't get what we want we end up becoming frustrated and wonder why our attempts to make ourselves happy aren't bearing their intended fruit. We end up with our noses under the couch vainly searching for something we believe to be there. Jesus comes along and asks us what we are looking for. Then he calmly invites us to look in the place where we ought to be searching.

In order to find the root of our true happiness, Jesus does not give us a formula. Rather, Jesus invites us to "come and see" for ourselves where our true happiness lies. He wants us to realize that true contentment is not in an object, but rather it is a person. He wants us to alter our investigation and look for our ultimate purpose in a relationship with him. He wants us to comprehend that only He can truly satisfy the deepest longing of our hearts. He wants us to discover that He is the answer to life's ultimate meaning and significance. It is only Jesus who can fulfill the answer to every heart's question, "What are you looking for?"