

***Sermon Title:* PHILIP, THE PLODDER**

Date: July 21, 2024 - John 1:43

Central Idea: The church needs patient plodders, who work steadily to complete a task.

Introduction:

In the four biblical lists of the twelve apostles, the fifth name on every list is Philip. He was evidently the leader of the second group of four. Philip had a Greek name meaning “lover of horses.”

Philip may have been slow and cautious, but he was a patient plodder. He was not the kind of man to be in a hurry to make up his mind, but he was the kind of man who arrived at a conclusion in the end. He apparently did not make much of an impact on the other disciples. If not for John’s gospel we would not know much about Philip. John shares four areas of Philip’s life as a disciple.

I. Philip brings Nathanael to Christ, John 1:43-48.

II. Philip is tested by Christ, John 6:5-7.

III. Philip introduces the Greeks to Christ, John 12:20-22.

IV. Philip is gently rebuked by Christ, John 14:8-12

Conclusion:

Tradition tells us that Philip was greatly used in the spread of the early church and was among the first of the apostles to suffer martyrdom. By most accounts he was put to death by stoning, but before his death, multitudes came to Christ under his preaching.

Philip obviously overcame the human tendencies that so often hampered his faith, and he stands with the other apostles as proof that “God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence.” (1 Corinthians 1:27-29)