



Sermon Series: He Changed Me, Part 2

Sermon Title: Bring What You Have - Be a Catalyst to Bring Others to Christ

Date: 3/19/2023

Big Idea: As we serve God with who we are and the things we have at hand, He will use us to bring people into a saving relationship with him.

Peter had a brother by the name of Andrew. Andrew was quieter than Peter and it would seem more prone to thinking before speaking. There's not much written about Andrew, but what is there is very interesting and can serve as a model for us. Andrew was very good at bringing what he had to Jesus, so Jesus could use it and use him.

Andrew served as an intermediary in many different situations. Let's look at four of those situations.

1. The first thing he had that he brought to Jesus was a desire to know and follow God.

In John 1, we find out he was first a disciple of John the Baptist. John told his disciples about Jesus (**John 1:32-34**)

The next day when Jesus passed by, John said, "Look, the Lamb of God." And two of John's disciples followed Jesus to where he was staying." One was Andrew. Andrew brought himself to Jesus to follow him as his disciple.

2. The second thing Andrew had was a brother, so he brought his brother Peter to Jesus.

John 1:40 - 42a

Andrew brought his brother Simon Peter to Jesus. Because Andrew cared about Peter, he also wanted Peter to know the Messiah. Andrew thought about those he loved and cared about and brought them to Jesus, too.

Who do you love and care about? Who do you want to share with about your relationship with Jesus?

3. The third thing we see Andrew bringing to Jesus is someone with food.

In John 6, John tells us that Jesus was surrounded by thousands of people who had spent the day listening to him, who were now hungry, but had no food and no place to eat. So the disciples came to Jesus and said, "Send the people away so they can go find food." But Jesus said, "You feed them." Their response was, to put it in our words, "Impossible!" But while everyone else was complaining about the impossibility of feeding the crowd, Andrew found a boy with five loaves of bread and two fish ([John 6:9-10](#)). Even with weak faith, Andrew brought what he had to Jesus, and Jesus used it to bring glory to the Father and to himself.

4. The fourth thing that Andrew brought to Jesus were Greeks who wanted to see Jesus.

These were God-fearing Greeks who had come to the Passover festival to worship God. They had heard that Jesus was there, and they wanted to meet Jesus. First, they went to Philip, who is from Galilee, a place with many Greeks and Jews, and then Philip found Andrew. Andrew and Philip together brought these Greeks to Jesus. ([John 12:20-22](#))

According to church tradition, throughout the rest of his life, Andrew continued to bring the Greeks - the word they used for unbelieving non-Jews - to Jesus. It is believed that he took the gospel into eastern Europe through Romania, Ukraine, and Russia. He learned as a disciple to bring what he had to Jesus, and Jesus would use him. So he followed Jesus' last command to take the gospel into all the world until the time he himself was crucified.

Bring what you have.

Andrew served as an intermediary in many different situations because he made himself available to Jesus. He knew what Jesus wanted: people to come to him. Andrew could help with that. He could serve as a catalyst. **A catalyst is something used to make a chemical reaction happen more quickly, yet the substance itself doesn't change.** Like Andrew, we have relationships with people who need to come to Jesus. It may be a deep, long-term relationship with someone, or it could be someone that you have just met. But we, too, can be a catalyst to bring people to a relationship with Jesus Christ. **Be a catalyst for others.** As we seek to serve Jesus, the Holy Spirit will guide and direct us to those

whom he has prepared to come to Jesus. We are the hands, feet, and mouth for Jesus and the Holy Spirit. And a cool thing is that we are a little different from a real catalyst because, in the end, while a catalyst doesn't change, what we do to bring people to Jesus changes us and helps us to grow. We draw closer to Jesus by bringing others to him.

Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Andrew made himself available to serve Jesus. What are some things that hinder our availability to serve Jesus? How can we overcome them?**
- **Who are people in your life who need to have a relationship with Jesus? Are you eager or hesitant to tell them about Jesus? Explain**
- **How can you use your interests, abilities, loves, and hobbies to connect with people to introduce them to Jesus?**
- **Andrew brought a child with a small amount of food to Jesus, and Jesus used his food to feed 5000 people. Describe a time when you trusted God to do something impossible, and He delivered.**
- **What advice would you give to a Christian who is nervous about sharing his or her faith?**