

Friend Day 6

The Andrew Connection

I. Today we are going to talk about the disciple Andrew.

A. Andrew was a person who specialized in bringing people to Jesus!

B. Text: (John 1:35-42 NKJV) ³⁵*Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. ³⁶And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour). ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). ⁴²And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone).*

II. Let's look at Andrew's Characteristics. (John 1:40 NKJV) ⁴⁰*One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.*

A. Andrew was never known as a great teacher, preacher or scholar.

B. Andrew's name means "man."

1. He was the ordinary disciple.

2. He has been called him the "Saint of the Rank and File."

C. Andrew was a rather obscure disciple.

1. He was referred to as "Simon Peter's brother," but it was Andrew who brought Peter to Jesus.

III. Let's look at Andrew's Conversion. (John 1:35-39 NKJV) ³⁵*Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. ³⁶And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour).*

A. Andrew met Jesus through the witness of his friend John the Baptist.

B. God used a Respected Associate, John the Baptist, to bring Andrew to Jesus.

C. Andrew believed John's witness concerning Jesus because he was a respected friend!

D. God used a Redemptive Analogy to get Andrew's attention. (verses 36, 37)

³⁶And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

1. Every Jewish person would understand about the "lamb of God," but this "lamb of God" would take away, not just cover up the sin of the world.

E. God initiated a **Relational Approach** in Andrew's life.

1. God brought Andrew to Jesus through a friend, John the Baptist.

2. Then God turned around and used Andrew to bring his brother Peter to Jesus. (verses 40-42) *⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). ⁴²And he brought him to Jesus.*

F. **God uses relationships to bring people to Christ!**

1. According to a poll conducted by a church directory service, people originally chose their church home for several distinct reasons.

a. **9% chose their church because of the architectural beauty of the building.**

b. **3% made their choice because the minister came to visit them.**

c. **18% made their decision based on their previous denominational ties.**

d. **14% came because of a mixture of the preacher's sermon or some form of promotional advertising.**

e. **56% were influenced to attend because they knew and respected certain other members, or were invited by a friend or neighbor.**

2. These stats dispel the idea that the preacher should do all of the visiting. This shows that the members collectively are more productive at soul winning than the minister alone by 18 to 1.

3. The vast majority of people who attend church made their choice because a friend showed interest in them and asked them to come.

4. Therefore, it is important to mobilize the whole church into action to reach out to their unchurched family and friends.

IV. Now let's look at Andrew's Concern for others.

A. He brought Peter to Jesus.

1. After his own conversion to Jesus, his first priority was to bring his brother to Jesus. (verses 40, 41) ⁴⁰*One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.* ⁴¹*He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ).*

2. Bringing Peter to Jesus was the first thing he did after his own conversion.

B. Look at the procedure he used in (verses 41, 42) ⁴¹*He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ).* ⁴²*And he brought him to Jesus.*

1. He found his brother.

2. He told his brother.

3. He brought his brother.

4. This was his pattern... *"Find...tell...bring"*

C. He continued this pattern throughout his discipleship.

1. He brought a boy to Jesus in (John 6:8 NKJV) ⁵*Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?"* ⁶*But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do.* ⁷*Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little."* ⁸*One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him,* ⁹*"There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?"*

3. He brought some Greek people to Jesus in (John 12:20-22 NKJV) ²⁰*Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast.* ²¹*Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."* ²²*Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus.*

V. Conclusion

A. God uses ordinary people in extraordinary ways.

B. Truth has great impact in the context of friendships.

C. Everyone can minister as Andrew did.