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FOLLOWERS

October 5, 2014
Celebration | 8:45 am
Pastor Dave Mitchell

Andrew: How an Ordinary Person has Extraordinary Impact

John 1:37-42, 6:8-9, 12:19-22

I faithfully seek to know Jesus. John 1:37-38

“The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. And Jesus turned and saw them following, and said to them, ‘What do you seek?’ They said to Him, ‘Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where are You staying?’”

I abide intimately with Jesus. John 1:38

“And Jesus turned and saw them following, and said to them, ‘What do you seek?’ They said to Him, ‘Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where are You staying?’ He said to them, ‘Come, and you will see.’ So they came and saw where He was staying; and they stayed with Him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.”

- John 15:3-8 – How we abide with Jesus today:

I bring all people and issues to Jesus. John 1:41-42, 6:8-9, 12:19-22

- **Bring people for Jesus to change.**
“He found first his own brother Simon and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ [which translated means Christ]. He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, ‘You are Simon the son of John; you shall be called Cephas’ ” [which is translated Peter]. - John 1:41-42
- **Bring things for Jesus to bless and even miraculously provide.**
“One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to Him, ‘There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are these for so many people?’ ” - John 6:8-9
- **Bring issues or struggles for Jesus to address and guide.**
“Now there were some Greeks among those who were going up to worship at the feast; these then came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and began to ask him, saying, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’ Philip came and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip came and told Jesus.” - John 12:19-22

Who can you bring to see Jesus?

What things will you bring to let Jesus bless and provide?

What issues do you need to bring to Jesus?

Digging Deeper:

Andrew is the first disciple to follow Jesus. What is so remarkable about Andrew is that there is actually nothing remarkable about him based on today's standards for success. He never wrote a book or gathered a crowd to hear him speak, but Jesus used him for extraordinary impact.

Andrew was one of the four disciples first called and closest to Jesus. Those four included two sets of brothers, Andrew and Peter and brothers James and John. However, Andrew is sometimes overlooked. At the great miracle of the transfiguration, Andrew is not mentioned. Also, Andrew was the man that brought the "lad" with the fish and bread to Jesus to feed the five thousand even though in Matthew's account of this story, Andrew is not even mentioned. Andrew is usually overshadowed by his more famous brother Peter. Peter was the one that preached to thousands in Jerusalem when 3000 people were saved and baptized. Few are called to such a high profile and public ministry, but most of us are like Andrew serving with less publicity and recognition.

For these reasons and many more, Andrew is one we can most identify with and perhaps would be most desired in our ministry today. He does not mind working behind the scenes. His ego is not hurt by not being recognized or honored for his service. He was ordinary, but accomplished extraordinary things by bringing all people and things to Jesus. Jesus receives the glory, not Andrew.

LifeGroup Discussion:

1. What about Andrew in this preceding description can you identify with? Do you ever feel overlooked or overshadowed by more "popular" Christians or those that serve in the limelight? How can Andrew encourage you?
2. **Read I Corinthians 1:27-31.** Who does God prefer to use in ministry? Why does God prefer to use people like that? What are we to really boast in?
3. How to have a heart like Andrew's: Abide in Christ. Andrew "stayed" with Jesus in John 1:39. The Greek word for "stayed" is "meno" which means to "abide." Andrew was able to "abide" literally with Jesus in that home. Today, we are called to "abide" with Jesus spiritually. **Read John 15:3-8 and consider the following questions:**
 - Vs. 3 – What effect can the Word of Jesus have on our spiritual life so we can "abide" with Jesus?
 - Vs. 4 – What can you accomplish by abiding in Jesus?
 - Vs. 7 – What does abiding in Jesus do for your prayer life?
 - Vs. 8 – Who is glorified when you abide in Jesus? And what do you prove when abiding in Jesus?
 - Andrew brought glory to God and proved he was a disciple by abiding in Jesus. How are you abiding in Jesus today?

Next Steps:

1. **To be discipled or to disciple someone else, join in on the 'Mentor Meetup' tonight at 7:00 pm in the Lobby.** As a follow up to our "Multiply" Discipleship Campaign, this is an intentional time to meet someone and begin a discipleship relationship. Dessert will be provided. Learn more at calvarylife.org/multiply
2. **Continue to practice "abiding" with Jesus by meditating on John 15 this week.** Each day, set aside time to listen to the words of Jesus and live a "clean" and purposeful life as His disciple.
3. **Join a LifeGroup to find more community and encouragement as you follow Jesus.** LifeGroups are ongoing small group communities that gather together throughout the week to CONNECT in a smaller setting, GROW together in faith, and REACH out together to our community. To learn more, visit Connection Point Central in the Lobby today or check out calvarylife.org/lifegroups