

Pastor's Ponderings

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“Find, Tell, & Bring”

by

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Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of these men who had heard what John said and then followed Jesus. ⁴¹The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother, Simon, and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means the Christ).

⁴²Then Andrew brought Simon to meet Jesus. Looking intently at Simon, Jesus said, "You are Simon, the son of John—but you will be called Cephas" (which means Peter).

(John 1:40-42 NLT)

Do you think the work of harvesting will not begin until the summer ends four months from now? Look around you! Vast fields are ripening all around us and are ready now for the harvest.

(John 4:35 NLT)

Who in your circle of influence needs to know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord? All of us know people. And as that song title from several years ago says, *“People Need the Lord.”* We all know people who need the Lord.

Jesus challenges us to do three things; 1) **Find** people who need Him, 2) **Tell** people about Him, and 3) **Bring** people to Him.

We can learn from Andrew. He was one of the very first disciples of Jesus Christ. He had been a disciple of John the Baptist. When John said to Andrew and others, *“Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world”* (John 1:29), Andrew believed John’s assessment of who Jesus was. Andrew responded by following Jesus. But that’s not all he (Andrew) did. He went and **found** his brother. He **told** his brother who Jesus was. He **brought** his brother so he could see for himself. Andrew **found, told, & brought** someone he loved to the Lord. What a marvelous challenge for us.

One of the really “cool” things about this story is that when you look at verse 42, you realize Jesus is the One doing the real work. He looks intently at Simon and knows his heart. We don’t have to worry about the “saving.” Jesus will take care of that. We just have to **find, tell, & bring**. Jesus will do the rest. What an awesome privilege it is to be part of God’s plan and yet know, God is going to handle the hard stuff.

Yet, we have a way of putting things off for a more convenient time, or more opportune moment. We keep waiting for the “right” set of circumstances before we mention Jesus to people. Usually, we use some “cop-out” excuse like, “I don’t want to offend him” (or her.) Or we tell ourselves, “He or she just isn’t ready quite yet.” Or maybe you’ve been guilty of this one, “I’m not gifted in that area.” You may not be gifted in evangelism, but you are commissioned, by Jesus Christ Himself (Matt 28:18-20).

Think about it for a minute. Was Andrew gifted? Was this the best time for him to go to his brother? Was this the most convenient opportunity? We’re not given any of the answers to these questions in the Bible. We can make some conclusions however. Andrew loved his brother. Andrew had found the Messiah. Andrew knew his brother did not know the Messiah. Andrew wanted his brother to know Jesus. Andrew **found** his brother. Andrew **told** his brother he had found the Messiah. Andrew didn’t just invite his brother he **brought** him to meet Jesus.

My prayer is that this Easter, we will have a Church filled with Andrews bringing their Simons to meet the Lord. Jesus says all we have to do is, *“Look around you! Vast fields are ripening all around us and are ready for the harvest.”*

Are you going to be an Andrew this Easter? Are you going to **find, tell, & bring** your Simon to Jesus? Do not wait for a more opportune time. Now is the time. You are Andrew. Simon needs you to **find, tell & bring** him to Jesus. Without Andrew, Simon doesn’t meet Jesus. Be Andrew. Simon needs the Lord.