

Series: Heroes
ANDREW: A HEART FOR OTHERS

Christ says, “Give me all. I don't want so much of your time and so much of your money and so much of your work: I want you. I have not come to torment your natural self, but to kill it. No half-measures are any good. I don't want to cut off a branch here and a branch there. I want to have the whole tree down. I don't want to drill the tooth, or crown it, or stop it, but to have it out. Hand over the whole natural self, all the desires which you think are innocent as well as the ones you think are wicked—the whole outfit. I will give you a new self instead. In fact, I will give you myself: my own will shall become yours.”

—C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Someone who was intrigued by Jesus, listened to Jesus, and then lived like Jesus was Andrew, whose story we read in John's gospel.

1. Andrew was a “second fiddle.” *John 1:40-42; John 6:8-9; John 12:20-22*

“Use what talent you possess—the woods would be very silent if no birds sang except those that sang best.” -- Henry van Dyke

- Andrew came to Jesus first
 - a. He was a follower of John the Baptist
 - b. He was one of the first two to spend time with Jesus, but...
- Andrew was never part of the inner circle
 - a. Andrew brought Simon to Jesus
 - b. John accompanied Andrew to meet Jesus for the first time. John was part of the inner circle. Not Andrew.
- Andrew was known as “Simon's brother.”
 - a. Listing of the twelve in Matthew and Luke “Simon...and Andrew, his brother.”
 - b. Identified as Simon's brother when he brought the lad to Jesus with the small lunch
 - c. Simon was a natural leader, Andrew was not
 - Simon walked on water to Jesus
 - Simon emerged as the disciples' leader
 - Simon preached the sermon at Pentecost

2. Andrew, although “second fiddle,” was faithful and produced splendid music.

Whenever we hear about him he was bringing people to Jesus

- Unselfishly (John 1:35-42)
- Optimistically (John 6:1-13)
- Universally (John 12:20-22)
- After the crucifixion (Acts 1:14)
- Until martyrdom¹
 - a. Missionary to the north of the Black Sea
 - b. Martyred in present-day Greece: he preached for three days from the cross

3. ARE YOU FAITHFUL?

- Andrew first met Jesus, spent time with him, became convinced that he was the Christ.

¹ *The Masters' Men* by William Barclay

- a. Have you met Jesus?
 - b. Have you spent time with Him?
 - c. Long enough to become convinced that he is the Messiah for YOU?
- Andrew was content with his own limitations and worked within them.
 - a. Are you content to play second fiddle, if necessary?
 - b. Will you work within your limitations?
 - Andrew was faithful.
 - a. Are you faithful, no matter who else is faithful?
 - b. Are you faithful, no matter who leaves or comes?

Ann Kiemel writes: “Draw a red circle around this kind of life: ‘Lord, put anything you want into my life. Take out anything you don’t want. The answer is “yes.””