



Disciple-Ship

Week 2

Tonight's Text: Matthew 14:18-19

Disciple Focus: Andrew

¹⁸And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁹Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

What's in a name?

Peter and Andrew were from the city of Bethsaida ([John 1:44](#)) on the northwest coast of Galilee ([John 12:21](#)). Andrew is the English translation of the Greek name Andreas, meaning rugged man or masculine man. There are two predominate thoughts as to why he would have a Greek name as a Hebrew male. The first is that his parents were influenced by or admired Greek culture. Secondly, it is possible that the name Andrew was a nickname, and that the Bible rightfully doesn't give his Hebrew name.

Q. When Jesus called out to Andrew and Peter in their fishing boat and invited them to become “fishers of men”, was this the first time Andrew had met Jesus?

A. No. Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist before Jesus began His ministry and we find Andrew being introduced to Jesus in John 1:35-43...

³⁵ Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. ³⁶ And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, “Behold the Lamb of God!”

³⁷ The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ Then 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?”

³⁹ He 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).

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). ⁴² And he brought him to Jesus.

Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, “You are Simon the son of ^[m]Jonah. You shall be called Cephas” (which is translated, A Stone).

Q. The Book of Matthew, where we find Jesus calling Peter and Andrew to become disciples is found before the book of John in the Bible. How is this possible, is this a contradiction in Scripture?

A. No, absolutely not. The Bible is truth. The listed order of books of the Bible vs. Chronological Order is knowledge that every believer must realize. In easy terms, the Bible cannot be read cover to cover as a

timeline of events. Although most of the writings are in chronological order, not all are.

No one sat down and said, “Let’s write the Bible in order.”

For example we see King David mourning his own sin after a confrontation with the Prophet Nathan concerning David’s affair with Bathsheba in Psalms 51, yet this story was introduced to us way back in 1 Samuel 12, many books previous to Psalms.

It’s important to remember that the Bible is a collection of writings, divided into two parts. The first part is the collection of writings or “books” as we know them, that covers the time period from Creation to just before (up to approx. 400 BC) Jesus Christ arrived on Earth is known as the Old Testament. The writings that cover the life of Jesus, the early church, and the prophetic writings of the present and future are found in the second part, the New Testament. The scrolls that make up the books of the Bible were written by more than 30 authors and accumulated over thousands of years. Although the Bible doesn’t always follow chronological timeline, it does have an order and that order is laid out by genre, or emphasis. This is the general layout of the Bible...

The Old Testament- 39 Books

- The books of Moses (The Pentateuch, Genesis-Dueteronomy)
- The books of History (Joshua through 2nd Chronicles)
- The books of Wisdom (Job through Song of Songs)
- The Prophets (Isaiah through Malachi)

The New Testament- 27 Books

- The Gospels (Matthew through Acts)
- The Epistles or Letters (Romans through Jude)
- The Revelation (Prophecy) (Revelations)

What did Andrew accomplish as one of the Disciples?

Andrew has the distinction of being the first person who answered the call of the Lord to become a disciple of Christ.

Q. How do you relate to this fact in your own life? Were you the first in your family or in your friend group to accept Jesus as your Savior? What were some of the challenges you faced in making that decision?

The bible gives us some information about the role Andrew played in the life of Jesus.

1. He was the first disciple credited with following Jesus, along with his brother Peter. In leaving behind the family business, Andrew sets a good example for all who would follow Christ; we are all called to “seek first his kingdom and his righteousness” (Matthew 6:33), and we should not let anything get in the way of following Jesus’ call. When Jesus told Andrew and Peter they would be “fishers of men,” He promised that He would use them to save men’s souls. And that’s exactly what the apostles did. There is at least one instance in Andrew’s life, recorded in the Bible, where he was a “fisher of men.” Some Greeks approached Philip, one of Andrew’s fellow disciples, wanting to see Jesus (John 12:20-21). Philip told Andrew what the Greeks wanted, and together Andrew and Philip brought the matter to Jesus (verse 22). In bringing Greeks to Jesus, Andrew had faith that Jesus’ intention was to save all men, and he was right: Jesus responded by referencing His crucifixion, saying, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified” (John 12:23). His death and resurrection would be the way by which all men, from all races and backgrounds and families, would be saved. These are the “fish of every kind” from Jesus’ parable of fishing with a net (Matthew 13:47-50), and Andrew was one of the first to be involved in an evangelical effort that extended beyond the Jewish people. The incident with the curious Greeks anticipated the day when God

would reveal to Peter, Andrew's brother, that all people are welcome to come to Jesus (Acts 10:1-48).

2. He led his brother, Peter, to the Lord.
3. During a crowded time of teaching, Andrew gave Jesus the information that a young boy had brought a lunch of loaves and fishes, opening the door to the miracle of provision.

Rumor has it...

Other credible historical texts, namely the famous Foxes Book of Martyrs, tell us that Andrew was crucified for his preaching of the Gospel on a x-shaped cross, although this information is not found in the Bible. In the church of St. Andrew in Patros, Greece, there is a book written in Greek which sheds light on his martyrdom. The following is written: "Aigeatis who was the governor of Patros became enraged at Andrew for his preaching and ordered him to stand before the tribunal in his attempt to do away with the Christian Faith. When Andrew resisted the tribunal, the governor ordered him crucified. Andrew remained tied to the cross with thick tight ropes for three days and his last words were: "Accept me, O Christ Jesus, whom I saw, whom I love, and in whom I am; accept my spirit in peace in your eternal realm." An ancient writer also speaks of the apostle's martyrdom: "Andrew hung upon the cross three whole days, suffering dreadful pain but continuing constantly to tell the people around him of the love of Jesus Christ. The people, as they listened to him, began to believe his words and asked the governor to let him be taken down from the cross. Not liking to refuse them, he at last ordered the ropes to be cut but when the last rope was severed, the body of the apostle fell to the ground quite dead."

Apostles Challenge- Tell others about a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. Actively seek opportunities to tell of how Jesus changed your life.

