"JESUS APPOINTED TWELVE"(3) Luke 6:12-16

Introduction:

1. Children love to sing "The Apostles' Song:"

"Jesus called them one by one: Peter, Andrew, James and John. Next came Philip, Thomas too, Matthew and Bartholomew; James, the one they called the Less; Simon, also Thaddaeus. Twelve apostles Judas made; Jesus was by him betrayed."

- 2. Andrew is briefly mentioned only a few times in the Scriptures.
 - a. He is mentioned in the four lists of the apostles (Matthew 10; Mark 3; Luke 6; Acts 1).
 - b. He is also mentioned on six other occasions:
 - 1) When he and another disciple were pointed to Jesus by John, the immerser (John 1:35-44).
 - 2) When he was called to be a disciple (Matt. 4:18-20).
 - 3) When Jesus visited in his home (Mark 1:29).
 - 4) When he brought a lad to Jesus who had five loaves and two fish (John 6:8,9).
 - 5) When he brought some Greeks to Jesus who wished to see Him (John 12:20-22).
 - 6) When he came with Peter, James and John to inquire regarding the destruction of the temple (Mark 13:3,4).
- 3. Though overshadowed by his dynamic brother, Simon, Andrew was a dedicated worker for the Lord.

Discussion:

- I. WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT ANDREW PERSONALLY?
 - A. The name "Andrew" means "manly" suggesting he was a strong, masculine figure "a real man."

- B. His father's name was "Jona" or "John" (Matthew 16:17).
 - 1. His brother was Simon to whom the Lord gave the name "Kephas" or "Peter" (John 1:42; Matt. 16:18).
 - 2. He was from Bethsaida, but lived in Capernaum (John 1:44; Mark 1:21,29).
 - 3. He and Simon had a house in Capernaum (Mk. 1:29).
- C. He was a fisherman in partnership with Simon, James and John and Zebedee (Luke 5:9,10).
- D. He was a disciple of John the immerser (John 1:35-40).
- II. ANDREW BROUGHT PEOPLE TO JESUS.
 - A. John the immerser was standing with two of his disciples when Jesus walked past (John 1:35-40).
 - 1. John said to them: "Behold the Lamb of God."
 - 2. A Jew familiar with OT offerings would think of the Passover lamb or perhaps the sin offering on the Day of Atonement (Exodus 12; Leviticus 16 & 17).
 - 3. The disciples, Andrew and probably John, followed Jesus who asked them, "Whom are you seeking?"
 - 4. When they inquired where He was staying, He said: "Come and see."
 - 5. They spent the day with Him a day that changed their lives!
 - B. Andrew brought his brother, Simon, to Jesus (Jn. 1:41-42).
 - 1. Andrew became a believer and a soul-winner.
 - 2. Many have been Christians for years and have never led a soul to Christ, or even tried to.
 - 3. Samuel Rogers, a pioneer preacher, built a log school house when he settled in Indiana.
 - 4. He taught school by day and preached at night.

- 5. Benjamin, Daniel and David Franklin were students.
- 6. They all obeyed the Gospel and became preachers.
- 7. Ben Franklin edited the American Christian Review, the most popular brotherhood paper in the 1860's.
- 8. He was also an evangelist who baptized thousands.
- 9. Rogers said: "If I had done nothing else but baptize Ben Franklin, my life would not have been in vain."
- 10. Simon Peter made a mark on history, but it would not have happened if Andrew had not led him to the Lord.
- C. Andrew brought a lad to the Lord when there was a need for food (John 6:1-13; Matthew 14:13-21).
 - 1. Jesus taught a great multitude of 5,000 men besides women and children for a full day (Matthew 14:2,3).
 - 2. They were in a "deserted" place (Matthew 14:13).
 - 3. Jesus asked Philip, "Where shall we buy bread that these may eat?"
 - 4. Andrew said, "There is a lad here with five barley loaves and two small fish."
 - 5. Jesus took the food, blessed it, multiplied it, fed the multitude, and the disciples took up twelve baskets.
 - a. Jesus did not waste the leftovers (John 6:12).
 - b. It was customary to carry a small basket for provisions when traveling.
- D. Andrew brought some Greeks to Jesus during the last Passover (John 12:20-22).
 - 1. They came to Philip who brought them to Andrew.
 - 2. They were likely proselytes, but were the first of many Gentiles who would come to Jesus.
 - 3. Philip brought them to Andrew who took them to Jesus.
 - 4. Those who respond to the invitation have usually already been taught by others.

5. Many of our best soul winners are those who "work behind the scenes" as did Andrew.

III. ANDREW HAD THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A SOUL-WINNER.

- A. He was a man of unfaltering faith: he believed in Jesus' power to feed thousands with a boy's lunch (Heb. 11:6).
- B. He was evangelistic whether bringing his brother or Greek proselytes to Christ (Luke 19:10; Mark 16:15).
- C. He was humble: he did not have to be in the forefront or get the credit; he took a backseat to Peter (1 Peter 5:6).
- D. He loved people and had compassion on both the physically and the spiritually hungry (James 1:27).
- E. He was a natural leader, but worked behind the scenes; we read of no sermons he preached or epistles he wrote.

IV. NOTHING IS RECORDED IN THE NT OF ANDREW'S LATER LIFE.

- A. There is no record of any miracles worked by him, or epistles that have been preserved that he wrote.
- B. Eusebius says he preached in Scythia (Southern Russia), Asia, and in Achaia (Southern Greece).
- C. A Roman pro-consul ordered Andrew to sacrifice to idols; when he refused, he was scourged and then crucified.

Conclusion:

- 1. The church needs people like Andrew who work without fanfare.
- 2. The church also needs soul-winners who will bring others to Christ.
- 3. Have you come to Christ for salvation? (Acts 4:12; Mark 16:16).