

# Andrew

"The Disciples"



Andrew is said to have died on an "X" shaped cross because he did not feel worthy to die on the same kind of cross as Christ.

Do you ever feel that you are just one person with no great power to do anything? Andrew may have felt that way. I think that at some point most of us do. Andrew was the one who actually introduced Peter to Christ. Andrew was actually the first disciple called by Christ. Peter is the brother that gets all the recognition, but Andrew didn't seem to mind. Authorities have called him selfless, optimistic, and universal. We never hear of any jealousy between them. We don't hear near as much about him as we do about Peter, his brother, in the Bible when over the world he has been recognized and honored as a disciple many times in many different places

*"One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, 'There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?' And Jesus said, 'Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments that remain that nothing be lost.'" John 6:8-12.*

Andrew was regarded so highly that he is the patron saint of Russia, Greece and Scotland. He is not mentioned much in the gospels, but when he is, he is very evangelical. Many times it is in a giving situation. Our Scripture tells of one of these times. The disciples were very concerned as to how Christ was going to feed the 5,000 people that had turned out to hear Him speak. Andrew approached Christ and said he had found a small boy who had five loaves and two fish. He knew it wasn't much, but it was a start. Andrew had faith that even though it was just a small lunch, Christ could do something with it.

There is also another very important person in this Scripture story. Andrew had noticed the young boy who had two fish and five loaves. What is also often overlooked is that the young boy was

*"Don't for a minute envy careless rebels; Soak yourself in the Fear-of-God—That's where your future lies. Then you won't be left with an armload of nothing."  
Proverbs 23:17-18  
The Message*

willing to share. Children are labeled as being selfish, but often they are also very giving as indicated in this story.

How often we have heard or been told "Oh, ye of little faith." Andrew was not one of little faith. He had great faith; he was secure in his faith, and he loved his Lord and Savior with all his heart. Evidently the young boy had that blind faith that his food was important and it could help. We hear of kids being selfish with their toys, etc. but we also need to remember that they can be very giving and loving. Children grow up in faith that they're going to be treated right. They trust us. I think that young boy trusted Andrew and he in turn trusted Christ. Imagine yourself being a small kid watching somebody who had 5000 people listening to him. Would it have affected you? We as adults let outside influences get in our

"I urge you to remain steadfast in faith, so that at last we will all reach heaven and there rejoice together."

way which has built prejudices in us over the years.

Andrew didn't have to be in the lime light. He wouldn't have been one to be in a newspaper or have his picture shown in everything. He was behind the scenes. That is where we need to be. We need to be willing to step out in faith and know that Christ is using us. We are part of His kingdom, and He will allow us to do His work as we are, if we ask Him. Sometimes no one will know that we are doing it, but God knows and that is all that counts. Are we willing to step out and do God's will even though it may not be the popular thing to do?

There is an old familiar hymn that comes to my mind as I write this. It was written by Richard Blanchard and talks about many who are seeking, but also says that Christ's filling his cup with His love is enough for this individual and it is compared to the woman at the well who we do not know by name, but we know she was a sinner who was seeking for God's love. Richard Blanchard did not have an easy life. He had a lung problem and did not have full capacity of his lungs, but he loved the Lord. He could write and he could play the piano. With these two talents he wrote "Fill My Cup, Lord." I believe it was enough for Andrew to know that Christ would always fill his cup, and we need to have enough faith that His love satisfies us.

Andrew it's only mentioned a few times in the Bible and several of those times are just in a list with the other disciples. There was a time when Phillip needed help and he went to Andrew. Andrew is given credit for doing a lot of preaching

after the death of Christ and is the patron Saint of several countries. Most of the time when we think of Andrew we think of him as Peter's brother and yet it was Andrew who was the follower of John the Baptist and introduced Peter to Christ. What a brother. We can also be that kind of brother.

*"Like the woman at the well I was seeking  
For things that could not satisfy;  
And then I heard my Savior speaking:  
"Draw from my well that never shall run dry.*

*There are millions in this world who are craving  
The pleasures earthly things afford;  
But none can match the wondrous treasure*

*That I find in Jesus Christ my Lord.  
So, my brother, if the things this world gave you  
Leave hungers that won't pass away,  
My blessed Lord will come and save you,  
If you kneel to Him and humbly pray:*

*Chorus: Fill my cup Lord, I lift it up,  
Lord!  
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul;  
Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more--  
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole!"*



*"God will lead you where  
He wants you to be, but  
you have to talk to Him daily to  
see where He wants you to go.  
The key is prayer."*

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, we know You are with us, and yet we are afraid to step out, to be the one behind the scenes that is doing the bidding of Your will. Many times we want to be seen. We want to be thanked in public. Help us to be willing to do the work behind the scenes. Help us to spread Your word and to have the faith that allows us to serve You in every day of our lives. Amen.

1. Would you like to be labeled selfless, optimistic, and universal? What does that mean?
2. How important are the people behind the scenes? How can you be the one behind the scenes?
3. How important is the message we receive from the young boy who was willing to share?
4. Another disciple actually said that there was no way to get anything for the people to eat? What would you have done?
5. Is this what people mean today by saying that we need to "get outside the box"? Can we?
6. In Isaiah 11:6 we read that "a little child shall lead them." How did that young boy lead the people there? Who is the child referenced in Isaiah?

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info@rgscripts.com

**To be a Christian without prayer  
is no more possible than to be  
alive without breathing.**

Martin Luther