

Andrew

“They were Called”



“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.” John 6:8-12.

“Did you ever feel that you were just one person with no great power to do what you thought needed to be done? Sometimes I feel that way. I think that at some point most of us do. I had heard about a man named John the Baptist, and I followed him and listened to him speak about Jesus of Nazareth. One day, when I was with John, we saw Jesus and recognized Him as the long awaited Messiah for our people. We spent a lot of time with Him and learned many things. The next day I couldn't wait to find Peter, my brother. I told him that we had found the Messiah and introduced Christ to Peter. My brother, Peter, was the outspoken one. I didn't mind that and I was often called selfless, optimistic, and universal. That was o.k. as long as I was doing the work Jesus had called me to do.

“One day when we were meeting with a very large group and Christ wanted to feed them, he asked us about food. I approached Christ and introduced Him to a small boy had five loaves and two fish he was willing to share. I knew it wasn't much, but it was a start. I had faith that even though it was a small lunch, Christ could do something with it. I was impressed with the small boy who thought he could help with his lunch. What a terrific witness he was to all of us by his faith. Jesus asked us to have the people sit down and with the five loaves and two fish, Christ multiplied them and we had twelve baskets of food left over after we had fed everyone. I think it was a miracle to show us and all the people that He was the Messiah. Many of the people realized that this was the Messiah and they wanted to make Him King right then. But Jesus wasn't there to be their earthly king and He still had work to do, so He slipped off and went back up the mountain to pray.

“I challenge you to step out and do God's will even though it may not be the popular thing to do? Take every opportunity you have to tell someone about your Saviour and Heavenly King as I was able to do. I was honored to be a 'fisher of men.' Sometimes no one will see what you are doing or even recognize that you have done anything, but God knows, and as I said before, that is all that matters.”

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. Another disciple actually said that there was no way to get anything for the people to eat? What would you have done?
4. Is this what people mean today by saying that we need to “get outside the box”? Can we?