

I Am ANDREW



Introduce a friend to Jesus Christ.

Who is Andrew?

Andrew was one of the first disciples Jesus called during His earthly ministry. The first chapter of John's gospel recounts how Andrew learned who Jesus was—and then immediately found his brother Simon Peter and brought him to meet the Son of God. Today, you—and your church members—can do the same by praying for family members, friends, neighbours, and co-workers who don't know Jesus and then bringing them to hear the Gospel during the Celebration of Hope.

The history of I Am Andrew

The idea for I Am Andrew began in the UK. During preparations for Billy Graham's historic Crusade in London in 1954, the team heard about a local church that was consistently reaching people with the Gospel. When Billy Graham and the Crusade staff investigated, they discovered that the congregation was holding monthly events during which members brought friends who didn't know the Lord. The team adopted this idea for Crusades and encouraged Christians to pray for and bring loved ones who are far from God to the evangelistic events. This also helped ensure that new believers would be disciplined in a local church. Today, BGEA still uses I Am Andrew, with the goal of creating opportunities for personal evangelism on a citywide scale.

HOW DO I BECOME AN ANDREW?

Becoming an Andrew begins in the heart: *"In your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have"* (1 Peter 3:15, NIV). You can share that hope by first praying for your loved ones who are far from God and fostering friendships with them, and then by inviting them to hear the Gospel during the Celebration of Hope.

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PASTORS, here's a simple message outline you may wish to follow as you explain I Am Andrew to your congregation. It's our prayer that this will inspire your church members to share the Gospel with their friends and family members through this initiative.

SUGGESTED I AM ANDREW EMPHASIS SUNDAY:

TEXT: John 1:35–42; 6:1–12; 12:20–22

OBJECTIVE: To motivate the congregation to get involved in I Am Andrew.

LESSON: How can we introduce people to Jesus? Andrew showed us how to bring people to Jesus—one at a time.

1. ANDREW'S CHARACTERISTICS: JOHN 1:40

Andrew was never known as a great teacher, preacher, or scholar, and God never used him to write Scripture.

A. His name: Andrew means "man." Peter Marshall called him the "saint of the rank and file."

B. His notoriety: Andrew was less well-known than some of the other disciples. He was referred to as "Simon Peter's brother," but we must remember it was Andrew who brought Peter to Jesus.

2. ANDREW'S CONVERSION: JOHN 1:35–39

Andrew met Jesus through the witness of his friend, John the Baptist.

A. God used a respected associate: Andrew believed John's witness concerning Jesus because he was a respected friend.

B. God used a redemptive analogy: John used an analogy by referring to "the Lamb of God." The great difference was this Lamb would take away the sin of the world, not just cover sin.

C. God used a relational approach: John led Andrew to Jesus. Eighty percent of those who

come forward at a BGEA evangelistic event are brought by a friend. God uses relationships to bring people into a relationship with Jesus.

3. ANDREW'S CONCERN:

JOHN 1:40–42; 6:8–9; 12:20–22

After Andrew met Jesus, his first priority was bringing others to Jesus.

A. He brought Simon Peter to Jesus, John 1:40–42

1. His priority: the first thing

2. His procedure: find, tell, bring.
This involves intentionality.

B. He brought a boy to Jesus, John 6:8–9

C. He brought Greek people to Jesus, John 12:20–22

CONCLUSION – LESSONS FROM ANDREW:

- God uses ordinary people in extraordinary ways.
- Truth is important in friendships.
- Everyone can minister as Andrew did.

EXPLAIN THE STEPS INVOLVED IN I AM ANDREW:

A. Have your congregation take time to write down on their I Am Andrew card at least one name they are willing to pray for and invite to the upcoming evangelistic event.

B. Have a time of prayer asking God to move in people's lives in the days and months leading up to the Celebration of Hope.