

THE MAN WHO BROUGHT PEOPLE TO JESUS

John 1:41-42

By Raymond White

Peter well earned his title, “Big Fisherman.” But when Jesus said, “I will make you fishers of men,” he spoke it as a plural, fishers, to two men. To Peter, certainly, but also to his brother Andrew — the other fisherman.

Peter brought thousands of people to Christ. But Andrew brought Peter.

John 1:41 He first findeth his own brother Simon :42 and brought him to Jesus.

It is impossible to measure the far reaching effect of a single convert. It’s been said that “You can count the seeds in an apple but you can’t count the apples in a seed.” If you worked all your life for Jesus and succeeded in bring to him only one new disciple, wouldn’t be nice if it were Peter?

But of course Andrew didn’t stop with one success. One day he brought a young boy to Jesus.

John 6:8 Andrew...saith unto [Jesus] :9 There is a lad here which hath five barley loaves and two small fishes.

A small boy with some bread and some fish? Not much to work with. But it was all Jesus needed. With those few loaves and fishes, Jesus fed five thousand people demonstrating to the world the limitless power that God had vested in him.

Then, on another occasion, some Greeks came. They first approached Philip.

John 12:21 Saying, sir, we would see Jesus. :22 Philip cometh and telleth Andrew: and again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus.

There’s not much else said about Andrew in the Bible. But that much was said of him: he brought people to Jesus. Later, after the resurrection, he was with the twelve forming the church (*Acts 1:13*), and that’s the last we see of Andrew in the Bible.

But that’s not the last we see of Andrew in history.

Apocryphal and historical sources tell us that Andrew spent much of his time north of the Black Sea in modern Russia preaching to Scythians. Later, he was in Asia Minor and finally in Greece. In the Greek town of Patras, Andrew brought a woman to Christ, Maximilla.

Unfortunately, as it turned out, she was the wife of the proconsul, Aegeates. Aegeates was angry about his wife’s conversion and he had Andrew crucified — on a different kind of cross than usual, sideways, like the letter X instead of the letter T. That shape of cross became known as “Andrew’s Cross.”

As Andrew hung on that cross, he preached to all who were in range to hear. And the last words he said 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.”

Andrew died as he lived, a good fisherman, bringing people to Jesus.