

ANDREW PASTORAL SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

“For we are labourers together with God...” 1 Cor. 3:9a

A Little Bit of Andrew In All Of Us

We begin with *Andrew*. And at once, the most natural question is, “*Why Andrew?*” Perhaps the answer is two-fold: first, because he is mentioned as among the first to become a disciple of Jesus (John 1:40) and second and more significantly, he is someone who brought so many others to Jesus.

Someone who enjoys the distinction of being “the first called” is ironically mentioned only 12 times in the New Testament: in four of them, only as part of the roll-call of Jesus’ 12 disciples; in three of them, only a concise account of his role in a few events in Jesus’ ministry. But in these three brief appearances, we see him doing the same thing: bringing others to Jesus in his own little way and without much fanfare. This is the common and consistent thread that runs through *Andrew*.

It was *Andrew* who brought his brother Simon to Jesus (John 1:42). It was also him who brought the boy with the loaves and fishes to Jesus, paving the way for the feeding of the 5,000 (John 6:8). And it was *Andrew*, along with Philip, who brought certain Greek men to Jesus (John 12:20-22) when Philip told him that they wanted to meet the Teacher.

Quite a sharp contrast from his choleric brother Peter, *Andrew* probably never preached to a mammoth crowd, never led a church and perhaps never ventured to a foreign country. He appears only briefly in the New Testament and then drops from sight unnoticed. While his brother Peter preached a sermon that converted three thousand, *Andrew* led others to Christ on a one-on-one basis and on a more personal level.

Andrew is not the great and charismatic preacher, writer, scholar or missionary. In more ways than one, he is the inconspicuous person sitting next to us on a crowded bus or probably driving it; the ordinary man or woman, boy or girl, who form just one of the faceless crowds, working quietly in the background, blissfully doing his or her own small part for a big and powerful God. For *Andrew*, no task is too small and too inconsequential when done for and in the name of His big God. *Andrew* is not out there, singing in front, but he is very much in the choir, perhaps unnoticed yet unmistakably contributing to the melodious voice that becomes a sweet-smelling offering to His God.

Not many of us are preachers or evangelists in the traditional sense of the word. Not many of us speak to congregations from the pulpits and convert thousands. Not many of us get to write epistles and embark on missionary journeys. And neither was *Andrew*.

And so the right question may in reality be, “*Why not Andrew?*” Well, *Andrew* is anyone and everyone who is joyful about finding meaning in life and is willing to share that meaning with others. In a very real sense, there just might be a little bit of *Andrew* in all of us. In a very real sense, that is what this Program is all about.

OUR MISSION

The Andrew Pastoral Sponsorship Program (APSP) as a non-profit and non-stock organization aims to generate financial support for believers who had discerned and heeded the call to the evangelistic ministry, thereby encouraging and equipping them in the noble task of preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ and fulfilling the mandate of the Great Commission.

To encourage Bible School students in pursuing their call in the ministry by supporting their financial needs and praying for their effective service.

Those that have been called are chosen, and those that are chosen are anointed to get the job done that God has called them to. We are committed to serve others putting God first, others second, our families and ourselves last.