

GOD'S CALLING IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

Lesson Two

IN THE GOSPELS: Andrew and Peter

Burden to Impart:

The Lord is calling disciples, those who would follow Him. Although Jesus first met Andrew and Peter at the Jordan River, He went back to Galilee to find them and call them again to follow Him. This time He performed a miracle to deeply impress them. He was calling them away from their lowly job of catching fish to work together with Him to do the very highest job in the universe: to catch men for God.

Memory Verse: “And He said to them, Come after Me, and I will make you fishers of men. And immediately leaving the nets, they followed Him” (Matthew 4:19—20).

Facts to Teach:

1. Two young brothers named Andrew and Simon had walked a long way from their hometown in Galilee to hear God's servant, John the Baptist. Coming from godly Jewish parents (Acts 10:14), they felt drawn to John. Andrew even became a disciple (John 1:35-42).
2. One day, John saw the Lord Jesus walking by and declared, “Behold the Lamb of God!” The Savior that John had been preaching about and preparing the people to receive, had finally come. Two of John's disciples (Andrew and John) realized that the time had come for them to leave him and follow their Savior, the Lord Jesus.
3. Andrew and John stayed with Jesus that day. Andrew quickly found his brother, Simon, and led him to Jesus. To his surprise, Jesus already knew both his name and his father's. Simon did not know that Jesus knew him before the world began (1 Pet. 1:2). The Lord changed Simon's name to Cephas, or Peter, which means a stone. By following Jesus, Simon would be transformed into a person as solid as a rock. Peter and Andrew became the first two apostles (sent ones).
4. Later, Jesus came to Peter's hometown (Luke 5:1-11). After preaching to a crowd at the seashore from Peter's boat, He told Peter to sail out into the deep. There, in the frightening sea, the Lord performed a miracle. They caught so many fish that nets began to tear. Even worse, their boats began to sink.
5. Fear and astonishment took hold of Peter and the rest. Peter realized that a miracle had happened so he fell down at Jesus' knees and said, “Depart from me, for I am a sin man, Lord!” Peter felt unworthy of Jesus because He realized that he was a sinner. He also realized that Jesus was his “Lord.”
6. Jesus comforted Peter, telling him that he would no longer catch just fish. He would be used by the Lord to “catch men.” The Lord was again telling Peter something about his future, that he would be used by God to “catch” many men for the Lord and His Kingdom.