

Examples

Lesson 2—Andrew’s Example

OVERVIEW

Background Bible Passages: John 1:35-42; John 6:1-14; John 12:20-26

Key Verse: 1 Timothy 4:12—“No one should despise your youth. Instead, you should be an example to the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.”

BEFORE CLASS

Preparation: *Your preparation will determine the direction your class will go.*

- Consider what kind of example you are.
- If stories were written about you, what would they reveal about your life.
- Study and prepare your lesson so that you are familiar with the teaching outline.
- Pray for each student by name.
- Use the Contact 1-2-3 system to the right to follow up on students who have recently missed on Sunday morning.

OPENING ACTIVITY

Discussion Questions

SAY: Today we’re going to continue talking about examples. An example is something or someone you pattern other things after.

- *Who are some examples in your life? In other words, who do you pattern your life after?*
- *Who remembers who we talked about last week? (Barzillai)*
- *What was Barzillai an example of? (Of giving but not going)*

CONTACT 1-2-3 SYSTEM

CONTACT 1--The first time a student is absent, give him a call.

CONTACT 2--Following the second absence, send him a postcard.

CONTACT 3-- The third week they are absent, pay him a visit.

THINK ABOUT IT: What does it say to a student when they miss multiple weeks in a row and are never contacted? It says, “It really doesn’t matter if you’re here or not.” Small things communicate great messages. Let the three “small” things above communicate that you care and miss your students when they are absent.

- *If someone wrote down stories about your life and then wrote a Sunday morning lesson about them, how do you think you would be held up as an example? And an example of what?*
- *What areas of your life do you think would give an pattern that others could follow?*
- *What areas of your life do you think would give an example of what not to do?*

BIBLE LESSON

SAY: Today we're going to take a look at one of Jesus' disciples, Andrew, the brother of Peter. Although his name is listed several times, there are only three stories in the Bible that include him in the story-line and today you'll notice something similar about all three.

Choose a volunteer to read—Read John 1:35-42

SAY: This story happens just before Jesus' ministry begins as John the Baptist has been baptizing and calling people to repentance. When John sees Jesus he recognizes Him as the Messiah, the Savior, and announces to all that He is the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Two of John's disciples leave him to follow Jesus. One of these men was Andrew.

- *What did Andrew and the other disciple want to do? (They wanted to know where Jesus was staying so that they could be with Him.)*
- *After spending the day with Jesus, what did Andrew do? (First, he realized who Jesus was and believed in Him. Second, he went to his brother, Peter, and "brought him to Jesus.")*
- *What example for us do you see in this story? (Andrew wanted to be with Jesus and after being with Jesus, he wanted to tell others about Him.)*

Choose a volunteer to read—Read John 6:1-14

- *What role does Andrew play in the story? (He brings the boy with the food to Jesus.)*
- *Why do you think he did this? Do you think he knew what Jesus was planning to do? (No, he didn't know. Listen to Andrew's statement, "...but how far will they go among so many." Even though Andrew didn't have all the answers, he was doing what he could.)*
- *What was the result of his actions? (Andrew did what he could to help and Jesus used it in a big way. Even though he only had a little to offer, God can take a little and make something great out of it.)*

- *What do you think we can learn from this?*

SAY: Let's read the last story about Andrew...

Choose a volunteer to read—Read John 12: 20-26

SAY: The Greeks were foreigners who believed in God. They had come to “worship at the Feast.” Elsewhere people such as this were called “God-fearers,” because although they were not Israelites, they believed in and worshiped their God. Apparently these Greeks had heard about Jesus and wanted to meet Him.

- *What did the Greeks say to Phillip? (“Sir, we would like to see Jesus.”)*
- *Why do you think Phillip brought them to Andrew instead of Jesus?*
- *In all three of these stories, what do you see Andrew doing? (In each case we find him bringing others to Jesus.)*
- *If your life were held up to a world that says, “We would like to see, Jesus,” would you be an example like Andrew?*

KEY VERSE

SAY: The world is looking for something more in life—they are looking to “see” Jesus, and ultimately what the world is searching for is a right relationship with God through Christ. But the only way the people around us will see Him is through our actions. Consider the following verse and how God has called you to be an example, not just to the lost world, but to Christians as well.

Choose a volunteer to read—Read 1 Timothy 4:12

- *How good or bad of an example are you in each of these areas?*

SAY: This verse talks about five areas to which you, as a Christian, have been called to be an example to other believers. On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being poor and 10 being great, how does your life measure up in the following five areas:

- Speech
- Conduct (Some translations might say “Life”)
- Love
- Faith
- Purity
- *What if you bought a pattern to something (i.e., for sewing, or a diagram for building a computer, etc.) but the pattern only showed you half of what to do. Do you think your finished product would look or work right? Why?*

SAY: Being a godly example begins with a full willingness, not a half-way heart. God has told us fully how to follow Him. We don't lack His direction; what we lack many times is the willingness to come, follow, and abide with Him.

- Last week Barzillai was willing to give but he wasn't willing to go. His willingness was only partial.

- This week, though, we see Andrew, who was continually bringing people to Christ, but how far did his willingness go—His willingness to follow Christ took him all the way to the cross, literally. According to historical tradition, Andrew was bound to cross as punishment for sharing Christ where he preached to his persecutors until he died. Even in his death he was trying to bring people to Jesus.

- *Is there any area of your life where you are only partially willing to follow Jesus?*

- *What would you need to let go of to follow Jesus "all the way"?*

WRAP IT UP

Prayer Time

Pray specifically today that your students will be an example of someone who knows, loves and walks with Jesus.

List prayer requests below and on the back of this page and pray for your students throughout the week. *Ask if any of your students want to pray today.*

Prayer Requests