

Message Notes

“What Child Is This? . . . Bringing Others to Him”

John 1:35-42
January 19, 2014

An Adventure That Can Be Found: When Coming to Jesus

- ◆ **Likened to “Entering the Wardrobe”**
 - ◆ **The Children of “The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe”**
- ◆ **Leading to Life Transformation**
 - ◆ **Robert Woodberry’s Research**
 - ◆ **The Surprising Result**

“Areas where Protestant missionaries had a significant presence in the past are on average more economically developed today, with comparatively better health, lower infant mortality, lower corruption, greater literacy, higher educational attainment (especially for women) and more robust membership in nongovernmental associations. . . . There is one important nuance to all this: The positive effect of missionaries on democracy applies only to ‘conversionary Protestants.’ Protestant clergy financed by the state, as well as Catholic missionaries prior to the 1960s, had no comparable effect in the areas where they worked.”

(Christianity Today, Jan/Feb. 2014, pg. 39-40)

An Example That Can Be Followed: When Bringing Others to Jesus

- ◆ **The Team That Jesus Formed**
 - ◆ **Was Ordinary**
 - ◆ **Was Diverse**
 - ◆ **Was Willing**
 - ◆ **Was Successful**
- ◆ **The Traits That Andrew (First Named Follower) Showed**

One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter).

(John 1:40-42 ESV)
- ◆ **He Was a Layperson in the Family Business**
- ◆ **He Sought Reality in His Religion: Truthful Transformation**
 - ◆ **Responded to What John Preached: Repentance**
 - ◆ **Responded to Where John Pointed: “Lamb of God”**
- ◆ **He Sent Everyone to Jesus**
 - ◆ **His Brother (John 1)**
 - ◆ **An Unknown Boy (John 6)**
 - ◆ **Interested Foreigners (John 12)**

- ◆ **The Trail We Can Follow**
 - ◆ **Express Interest to Others**
 - ◆ **Spend Time with Them**
 - ◆ **Give Tracts to Them**
 - ◆ **“Welcome”**

“We’re glad you’ve found our church! We hope you’ll find us to be an encouraging, friendly group of people. While we don’t make any claims to be perfect, we are regularly discovering truths that are changing us individually and enriching our lives as a church community. In fact, it’s so good that we think it’s worth sharing!”
 - ◆ **“Where Is God in Our Suffering?”**

“Perhaps we feel that God just doesn’t understand what’s it like to lose a loved one. Author Leslie Montgomery writes, ‘Who better than our Father in heaven knows the anguish of losing a loved one, for His own Son died at Calvary.’ Yes, God does know. He understands.”
 - ◆ **“You Can Be Guilt Free”**
 - ◆ **“Don’t Waste Your Life”**
 - ◆ **“What Christians Believe”**
 - ◆ **Extend Invitation to Some**
 - ◆ **Be a Helpful Guide**
 - ◆ **“I Enjoy My Church, Because . . .”**
 - ◆ **“When You Come, You Will See . . .”**
 - ◆ **Be an Available Guide**
 - ◆ **Following Ed Kimball**

“I decided to speak to Moody about Christ and about His soul. I started downtown to Holton’s shoe store. When I was nearly there, I began to wonder whether I ought to go just then during business hours. And I thought maybe my mission might embarrass the boy, that when I went away the other clerks might ask who I was, and when they learned might taunt Moody and ask if I was trying to make a good boy out of him. . . . I never could remember just what I *did* say: something about Christ and His love; that was all.”

(Moody: A Biographical Portrait of the Pacesetter in Modern Evangelism, pg. 13)
 - ◆ **Following Andrew**

“In quiet, humble ways, he brought others to places where Jesus could be met, believed and followed. You can, too.” (Pastor Dave)