

The First Team

Sunday 10th March 2019



fppt.com

The First Team



Our two-fold focus:

What were Jesus' 12 Disciples like?
What is a Disciple anyway?

**Sunday mornings at 11.00am
in February and March 2019**

nuneatonchristianfellowship.org.uk

Come and discover more at NCF!



fppt.com

Where do we find their names?

- Matthew 10:1-4
- Mark 3:13-19
- Luke 6:12-16
- John 6:67-71
- Acts 1:12-14



fppt.com

What have we learned so far?

One general thought,



fppt.com

What have we learned so far?

One general thought,
five more specific ones



fppt.com

What have we learned so far?

One general thought,
five more specific ones
and **one** Call to Action



fppt.com

What have we learned so far?

One general thought,
five more specific ones
and **one** Call to Action
(+ **numerous** other ideas that you heard
and I haven't!):



fppt.com



fppt.com

The general thought

What have we learned so far?

- 3rd Feb (Intro)
it's a process + fan into flame your gifts
- 10th Feb (Philip)
open the door for Jesus and let Him move
- 17th Feb (Matthew)
your background doesn't rule you in or out
- 24th Feb (Four lesser known)
all disciples are important and needed
- 3rd Mar (Judas Iscariot)
sin is deceptive and weakening



fppt.com

Five specific thoughts + other ideas!!

We are *on the cusp* at NCF so,



fppt.com

The call to action

We are *on the cusp* at NCF so,

embrace God
and *listen* for the



fppt.com

The First Team

Sunday 10th March 2019



Andrew and Peter



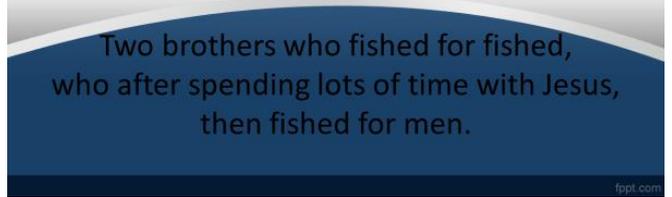
The First Team

Sunday 10th March 2019



Andrew and Peter

Two brothers who fished for fish, who after spending lots of time with Jesus, then fished for men.



There is another pair of fishermen we'll be looking at in two weeks time with Jean. Apparently, there were 26 varieties of fish in Sea of Galilee at the time. Fishermen used two types of net. A throwing net, which was round and about 12 foot across, having leads around the edge. It would catch the fish by dropping over them. Second sort called a sagene – it was 1500 feet long and 12 foot deep. It had floaters above and sinkers below. It was a dragnet. They'd haul it to shore and throw away the stuff they didn't want whilst sorting

The fishermen would have been taught the Jewish faith in the synagogue when they were younger. They were open and teachable. The Messiah could come and they would listen to Him and not their own preconceptions. Other people in the society at the time had much more closed ideas.



I've got one brother and one sister.



What are our relationships like with our siblings if we have any? How was it when growing up? How is it now you're adult?



The First Team

Sunday 10th March 2019



Andrew and Peter

In the Gospel and Acts lists
Simon Peter *always* comes before Andrew

fppt.com

Simon Peter



fppt.com

Peter:

Born in Bethsaida – on River Jordan almost on Sea of Galilee.

First in list of Apostles - Peter was probably the leader within the Disciples. He was the one who was most outspoken, the most inquisitive and most courageous.

Transfiguration

Walking on water Matthew 14 – screaming with fear.

Jesus didn't tell Peter not to come. Peter was a fisherman! He knew what water is like. People drown in water. He'd probably known people who had drowned in the Sea. The Sea of Galilee is 13 miles long, 8 miles wide and 141 feet deep at its deepest point.

Prepared the room for The Last Supper with John

Disown Jesus three times

Preaching on Day of Pentecost

Mark's Gospel is probably Peter's prospective of his time with Jesus. The young John Mark would probably have interviewed him over many months and also listened to his anecdotes as he taught and preached.

He may have been martyred in Rome around 61AD. Tradition says his wife was killed first and then Peter asked to be crucified upside down, as he didn't consider himself worthy enough to be killed in the same way as Jesus.

Andrew



fppt.com

Andrew



He's got a Greek name – “Manly” or “masculine” – the Sea of Galilee area had lots of Greek speakers. He might have been like peas in the pod with Peter, his older brother, or chalk and cheese. We don't know!

He is mentioned 12 times in the Bible – nearly always he is referred to as Simon Peter's brother. Andrew quietly obeyed and got with the daily tasks. He was the younger brother. Second fiddle. He lived in his brother's shadow.

Was Andrew concerned with playing second fiddle to his brother? We don't know! Perhaps as long as he was serving God it didn't matter whether he was serving in prominently or in obscurity. That's the heart of a servant!

7 incidents in Bible.

Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist first. John had pointed to Jesus and spoken of Him and that is why Andrew started following Him. He knew Jesus was the Messiah, so he found his brother and told him about Jesus. He was probably very close to Peter, so he wanted Peter to know asap about the Messiah. Is it difficult to talk to family members or friends about Jesus?

Luke says one of first disciples.

In John chapter 6, we're told about the Feeding of the 5,000. Andrew is part of the story. All the other disciples were wondering what to do, but he found the boy with the loaves and fishes. He saw the value in small things.

This shows that he believed *he* had to do his uttermost with his own capabilities and then Jesus would fill in the blanks and get things sorted. He recognised his own deficit, but knew God had a surplus!

John: with friend Philip he helped some Gr enquirers. John 12:20f

ie is Jesus just a Messiah to the Jews or for Gentiles too - the whole world? On a one to one basis Andrew was brilliant at introducing people to Jesus.

Mark: questioned Jesus about end of world; Luke: in upper room after Jesus' ascension.

After Pentecost we think he stayed in Jerusalem until the persecutions occurred. Then we think he went to Pontus and Bithynia (both in what is now northern Turkey by the Black Sea) and also Greece. It was in Patrae that he worked for a few years and was eventually martyred there in his early sixties. A third century novel called in English “The Acts of Andrew” describes some of his activities there. There were healings and many conversions. It talks about his death too.



How was he martyred in Greece? St Andrew's Cross – he didn't think he was worthy to die on the same sort of cross of Jesus, so tradition says they changed the shape for him, it's called a saltire. It's thought that they didn't nail him to it. The local Roman governor, Aegeates, had hoped that the wild dogs that foraged along the seashore would tear Andrew apart. However, a large crowd stayed around the cross so his death took several days to occur. In that time it is reported that two thousand people got converted as Andrew was preaching from the cross. He died on 30th November (St Andrew's Day still in Scotland) in 69AD.

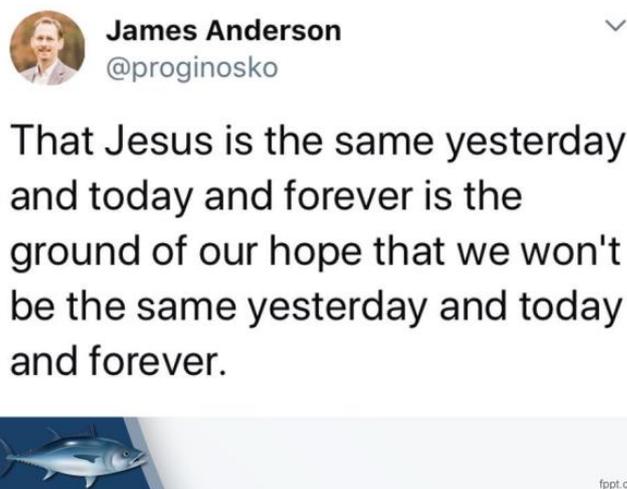
His key role was to bring others to Jesus. After he was called by Jesus, he went to look for his brother. We all need people who are close to us. Someone we can look to for advice as well as receive it from them. Andrew worked quietly, whilst his brother was often involved in big occasions.



I'm extremely interested in the responsibilities I have here. I take it very seriously. Jesus is our shepherd, I am the under-shepherd. Through my words and actions, I am meant to point you to Jesus in an active and definite manner.

I don't want to be just a Jesus follower where I might go to church on a Sunday and maybe once in the week and read the Bible and pray sometimes. I don't want *you* to be like that either. I want to be a Disciple of Jesus where what He says is *most* important to me.

The 11 Disciples were changed men after Jesus rose from the dead because they had surrendered to Him. They would have occasionally made mistakes after Jesus ascended into heaven, but now they were world changers.



If at the end of March when this Series ends, we haven't changed in the slightest since it began at the beginning of February, then what has been discussed has been fairly pointless. We could have been talking about how to cook nutritionally, how to trace your family history or looked at each other's holiday photos.

We haven't just been thinking about what the Disciples were like. We haven't just been gaining information about them for our heads. We've also been challenging ourselves to think about what it means to be a Disciple of Jesus in 2019. For nearly everyone, that means we will have to change, because we're not acting like Disciples at the moment.

James Anderson is a Scottish theologian, who is a professor of theology in America. Jesus is inviting us to do something that isn't always comfortable, easy or straightforward. It *is* always for our benefit though. He wants us to change!

Matthew 11:28-30 (*The Message*)

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly.”

How are we to keep company with God? Spending time with Him – putting Him first at the start of the day and then throughout the day.

We *are* on the cusp of something wonderful, but our attitudes and actions need to be changing. *My* attitudes and actions need to change!

We can't go through the rest of this year and then the decade of the 2020s staying as we are. Do you want to join me in an adventure? Shall we allow God to take more control of our own individual lives? Shall we see what God will do through us and in spite of us when we more fully surrender to Him?

