



Follow Me

Part 2 – Simon and Andrew

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We started a new series last week called *Follow Me*. I love the idea of *follow me*. It's referring to following Jesus. What's really neat about God's scripture and God's text is it shows these broken people all throughout scripture that we can just learn from and be encouraged by. But at the end of the day, Paul epitomizes it when he says in 1 Corinthians 11: 1, "Follow my example as I follow the example of Christ." That's who we are to follow. But what we can find is a ton of encouragement in these pages of people like you and me who don't have it all together, that were jacked up.

Think about it. Abraham was a liar. He lied multiple times about who Sarah actually was because he feared. Gideon doubted. Jonah ran from God. Moses didn't speak very well. He said, "Hey, can you help me out here and bring me Aaron; I don't speak very well." Noah was a drunk and exposed by his own sons. Timothy was too young.

We're going to find out today that Peter has a big mouth. We just call him the apostle with a foot-shaped mouth. Paul was impulsive. David was a murderer, conspirator, and adulterer. Lazarus was dead. Balaam's donkey was... well, there's another name for a donkey. Yet God used them. God spoke through a donkey. My point is that should encourage all of us who walk in here. "Well, you don't know my past." No, but I know your God. I know your God and I know he can speak through a donkey, and he can make a dead man alive again. And he can use you.

I just want to encourage all of you as we look at Peter and Andrew today. God doesn't want any of his people on the sidelines. "I don't speak well." Great, neither did Moses. "I'm old." Great. So was Sarah and she still had a child at 100. Excuses aren't from the Lord. He can use anyone in any circumstance. That's what's beautiful about this book. He takes broken pieces like you and me and not only redeems them but uses them in amazing ways that they can't possibly grasp or imagine.

Last week, we looked at Mary Magdalene. Ted did a great job. We don't know necessarily that she was a prostitute, but she wasn't the best of the civilians there and so God used her in an amazing way.

This week, we are going to look at Simon and Andrew. Simon and Andrew were two of the very first apostles that were ever called. We're going to see that here in the text. We see and hear a lot about Simon, but we don't a lot about Andrew, yet I think we can learn three leadership qualities from both of them that we are going to look at today.

In Mathew 4: 18 – 20, this is when they were first called to follow Jesus. Now this wasn't the first time they encountered Jesus. In John 1, people say, "Doesn't John 1 contradict Mathew 4?" and the answer is no. They don't contradict one another. If you remember, Andrew was actually hanging out with John the Baptist. John the Baptist was the forerunner to Christ. And when he's hanging out with John the Baptist, John says, "Behold, the Son of Man." So, Andrew meets him for the first time, but he doesn't meet John the Baptist at the moment. He's been being disciplined by John the Baptist. So, Andrew runs home and he tells Peter, "Peter, I found the Messiah." So, this wasn't the first time Andrew saw Jesus. This was when they were first called by Jesus. Big difference. So, while walking by the Sea of Galilee, there were fishermen. Andrew and Simon were fishermen. They were fishermen and Jesus would soon call them to be fishers of men.

As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake... This isn't the only time we see the word *cast*. In First Peter 5: 7, which is written by the same Peter, we see here it says, ***"Cast all your anxieties onto him because he cares for you."*** I love that illustration. When we think about the word *cast*, we think like down at Table Rock or Taneycomo. That's not how these fishermen were casting. They didn't have fishing poles. They had no Johnny Morris Bass Pro Shop down the street. They had huge nets. And together, they would give everything they had to cast those nets. So, this illustration of casting all your anxieties onto him because he cares for you is releasing it, giving it everything you've got. ***...for they were fishermen.*** You've heard the old adage "Give a man a fish, he eats for a day. Teach a man to fish and he eats for a lifetime." But listen to this third one that people rarely mention. "Teach a man how to teach others to fish and they eat for generations." That's the discipleship cycle. That's what Jesus understood. It wasn't just about teaching them who he was; it was about teaching them how to teach others. That's the Great Commission we see in Matthew 28: ***19 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." 20 At once they left their nets and followed him.*** This was immediate. There was no hesitation.

You have to understand. That fishing boat and that fishing net represented everything comfortable in Andrew and Simon's lives. It was their way of income, it was a way to put a roof over their head, it was a way to provide for their family. It was all they knew. It was what they were really good at. And they said, "None of this is more valuable and more beneficial than following you." So, immediately, they left their nets and followed him.

We see here Simon, who was called Peter. So, what's going on? Is it Simon? Is it Peter? Is it Cephus? Which one is it here? Simon is his name and Simon was a really common name. We see like seven other Simons in the New Testament. Simon Cyrene and another Simon as an apostle and a zealot. So, which one is it? Well, Simon is his real name. Peter was a nickname that Jesus gave him. Peter, in the Greek Petras, means rock. Cephus is the Aramaic word for Stone or rock. So these were nicknames. How many of you have nicknames for your spouse? Hopefully it's a term of endearment. I don't need too much information, but some of you here have nicknames. I rarely call my wife by her first name. When I do, I'm usually frustrated. You know. When you were a kid, and you got the first, the middle, and the last name, you knew it wasn't good.

My youngest son almost fell into some quicksand while fishing down at Taneycomo. He was mud-deep in it. I Said Anders Waylen Donyes! And his eyes got really big because he knew when I put all three

names together, it's not a good thing. My heart dropped. He was down to here in quicksand. Out of fear, I'm yelling his full name.

So, this is actually a term of endearment from Jesus. It's an encouraging word he's speaking into his life. So, you see throughout the gospels, when Jesus says, "Peter," he's doing well. When Jesus goes back and says Simon, he's not doing too well. So, any time he heard Simon, he would cringe. It was like hearing the full name. He didn't want to hear Simon; he wanted to hear Peter. What's funny is that even some of the apostles caught on and just started calling him Peter. It's really neat how these nicknames work. So, we all give each other nicknames. I call my oldest Dubs. I call my youngest Panda. We do nicknames all the time.

Satan had different names. Lucifer, Prince of Darkness, Beelzebub. But even as many nicknames as he had, which I think are about seven or eight, they weren't nearly as many names as Jesus.

Some of you might have heard me share this before, but it's worth sharing again. Let me just go through the alphabet of the names that Jesus, the one that says, "Follow Me," has. He is the advocate, he is the almighty, he is the anchor, he is the author and finisher of your faith. He's the beginning and the end. He's the bright morning star. He's the bread of life. He's the branch. He's the beloved. He's the bridegroom. He's the chief cornerstone. He's the carpenter. He's the Dayspring. He's the door. He's the everlasting Father, he's the faithful and true witness. He's the good shepherd. He's the High Priest. He's the Holy One. He's the I Am. He's Emanuel, which means God with Us. He's the Image of the invisible God. He's the Judge. He's the King of Jews. He's the king of kings, the Lord of Lords.

He's the Lion of the Tribe of Judah. He's the Living Water. He's the Master, the Messiah, the Man of Sorrows, the Mediator. There's no other like him. He's the name above all names. He's the only begotten son. He's the Prince of Peace, He's the Prophet. He's quick to serve, quick to love, and quick to forgive. He's the rock. He's the Root of David. He's the Rose of Sharon, he's the resurrection and the Life. Yes, he's your Savior. He's the Shepherd, he's the Shiloh. He's the truth. He's undefeated. He's victory over death. John 14: 6 says he's the way, the truth, and life, and no one shall come to the Father except through him. He's the X Factor in your faith. He's the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. He's Zion's precious cornerstone.

And then you have to do an alliteration of him. He's the adventure, he's the boulevard, the boldness, he's the courtyard to courage. He's the doorway to deliverance. He's the elevator to eternity. He's the freeway to freedom. He's the gateway to glory. He's the highway to holiness. He's the interstate to intimacy. He's the journey to joy. He's the key to knowledge, he's the lane to love. He's the Main Street to meaning. He's the pathway to peace. He's the roadway to righteousness. He's the trail to truth. He's the vestibule to victory. And he's the way to wonder.

So, yes, he's a get out of hell free card. But he's so much more than that. So, when he said to Peter and Andrew, "Follow Me," they knew all that. They knew who he was. They knew he was so much more than just a Savior, so much more.

So, it goes on to say, in 2 Peter 1: 1, ***Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ...*** What's crazy here in 2 Peter who wrote this book? How does he refer to himself? He gave the nickname Jesus gave him. He took that name. He didn't just say Simon, a bondservant, that was his real name.

His birth name was Simon. He ended up making his surname Peter. He wanted to be Peter because when he was Peter, he was walking well with Jesus.

I want you to know Jesus doesn't look at you and see the Simon; Jesus looks at you and sees the Peter. He sees the imputed righteousness of himself in you. He doesn't see everything you've messed up with and everything you've done wrong. That's not what Jesus is about. He sees you. He sees Jesus in you. And he knew when he referred to himself as Peter, he saw the same thing.

So, what made Peter a leader? I want to look at three things with you guys. The first one is that Peter was extremely inquisitive. You see in the gospels that he was extremely inquisitive. John McCarther says this about inquisitiveness. "Curiosity is crucial to leadership. People who are content with what they don't know, happy to remain ignorant about what they don't understand, complacent about what they haven't analyzed, and comfortable living with problems they haven't solved, such people cannot lead.

I get to be in quite a few meetings. I love the meetings I'm in because I'm rarely the smartest person you meet. I'm asking John Jensen questions all the time. Because I don't know. And he's brilliant and I'm not. Or this week, I just brought in a guy because we're trying to figure out if we want to do golf. I just brought a guy in and said, "Tell me everything you know about golf." It's important when you walk into the room that you don't think you're the most important person in the room.

I had the blessed opportunity to get a meeting this last week with Jack Herschend, who is probably one of the most humble, wisest people I know. He just asked so many questions. I wanted to ask him questions. He had nothing to learn from me and I had a ton to learn from him.

He asked, "Do you think visionaries and leaders are born or made?"

That's a powerful question. I said, "I don't know, but I just want to sit under you for another 300 hours." We talked about this too. Inquisitiveness breeds humility. I've never heard anyone say, "I don't like that person. They are just too humble." Said no one ever. Which is probably the reason why everyone loves Jack. He Reeks of Humility.

What Peter is reflecting by asking questions, what you are reflecting when you are asking your spouse questions rather than just presuming you know the answer or that they want to be fixed, what you are producing is humility in your inquisitiveness.

In all these gospels, Peter asks more questions than any of the other apostles combined. These are just some examples. Mathew 15: 15, Luke 12: 41, Mathew 18: 20. John 21. He asks more questions than any of the other apostles combined. He wants to learn.

When I did a post-graduate seminary program, a one-year program, I was fresh in the faith. I was 22 years old, never grew up in church, never went to VBS. I annoyed so many of my peers because I was asking questions about Noah. I didn't go to Sunday School. I didn't know. I just needed to learn. I don't even know where to find Matthew in my bible. Someone tells me to look up a passage, and I'm like okay, where's the index... That's okay. That's the beautiful thing about getting to grow in the Lord. Ask questions, fire away. And if people don't want to spend time answering your questions, you probably

need to find new people. That's the beautiful thing about our faith. Peter didn't know. All he knew was the Old Testament and that he was Jewish and they were looking for this Messiah. He had no idea how this whole new way was going to work. He was a sponge.

So, as a Christian, we can either be a sponge or a straw. So, if I had a big bowl up here and I put a sponge in there, it's going to get a lot more than a straw is going to get. By the way, straws suck, so don't be a straw. He took the initiative. I love this quote from George Whitfield, "*Lord, help me to begin to begin.*"

Somebody who is just paralyzed to even start. Like, what does it look like to even start living out my faith?" What does it look like to even start following Jesus? It's the same way in the gospels. Jesus, I believe. Just help my unbelief." "Hel me to begin to begin." We have so many ways you can plug into this church – small groups, sweet spot, serving..." Just begin to begin. But, once again, I promise you that no matter your background, God didn't create you to just be on the sidelines. "I didn't go to seminary." Great, neither did Timothy. "I don't know the bible." Great. Neither did Peter. Just ask God to show you where to begin to begin. Maybe that's just your prayer this week. "I know you're in my heart, I know you have plans for my life, just help me to begin on where to begin."

Peter always took the initiative. Look at this Passage in Mathew 16: 13 -20, ***13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"*** What a powerful question.

AW Tozer said, "*What comes to your mind when you think about God is the most important thing about you.*"

Jesus is trying to see who people say the Son of Man is. It's a trick question. He's trying to see "Which of you who are following me really believe that I'm Jesus the Christ, the Messiah, the One that all the Old Testament points to?" He's trying to figure it out. And they are like, "Man, I don't want to answer this question wrong. They're kind of waiting to see if they can cheat off their buddy's paper. ***14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."***

15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." 20 Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah... Yet. He wasn't ready for everything to come. He wasn't done fulfilling everything he was going to fulfill, so he was keeping the crowd back until it was time for the culmination of the crucifixion and the resurrection.

The last thing that leads to leadership that we see in Peter is that he was involved. The safest road to hell is a gradual one, a gentle slope, soft underfoot without sudden turning, without milestones, without signposts.

As John Piper said, *"It's collecting seashells and playing 18 to 36 holes a day in your retirement..."* That's a gradual road to nothing. In the gospels, in the Bible, there is no retirement. I'm sitting with 90-year-old plus Jack Herschend this week and retirement is the furthest thing from his mind. He knows he's still on earth because God still has a purpose for his life to advance his kingdom. Now, he might not be having to punch a timecard, but God's not done with him yet. And he knows that.

Peter was involved. You get to be involved. We all get to be involved, regardless of our background.

Look at this text in Matthew 14: 27 – 30, **27 But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. They thought they saw a ghost. This is the passage where Jesus walks on water. They thought they saw a ghost. *It is I Don't be afraid.*" 28 "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." 29 "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water, and came toward Jesus...**

There are two people that I know in the history of humanity that have walked on water, one of them being the Savior of the entire universe, the second being a human just like you and me because he had faith and he got out of the boat. What's crazy is we give him such a hard time here in a second that he doubts. What were the other 11 doing? Are you kidding me? The dude walked on water. Yeah, he sank for a second and Jesus pulled him back up, but the dude walked on water. Just because he had faith and he was involved. There's no telling how you might walk on water just by stepping out into faith and seeing how God might use you. But you'll never know if you can do it if you're not willing to get your eyes on Jesus to see what he might be doing with you, your life, your marriage, your parenting, whatever it may be. **30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"**

When we take our eyes off Jesus, that's when we begin to sink. When his eyes were on Jesus, he never sank. When your eyes are on Jesus, he can do immeasurably more as Ephesians 2 says. **He can do immeasurably more than all you grasp or imagine.** What are your eyes on? What are you fixated on? Who are you fixated on? Who or what are you following? The title of this whole series is *Follow Me*. You follow anything other than Him; I promise you it is sinking sand... Eventually... You might feel like you're standing on firm ground now. I promise you it will eventually sink. Eventually, your 401K will sink. Eventually, your salary will sink. Eventually, your age will sink. But those who fix their eyes on Jesus will never sink. He's the one who defeated the tomb. He's the one that tasted death, so you and I don't have to taste it. He's the one that removed the sting from death.

Then we have Andrew. What made Andrew so different? We see so much less about Andrew than we do about Peter. They're brothers, they're fishermen, Andrew actually introduced Peter to Jesus Christ. Andrew was kind of behind the scenes and rocked it for Jesus. He was a different leader in his own right. I think we throw the word leadership around in our church circles so often. Like, "Everyone is a leader." No, everybody is not a vocal, stand-up front leader. There are servant leaders, there are quiet leaders. There are different types of leaders. There are leaders in organizations that have a deep impact and a ripple effect for those who might be more outspoken and upfront. There are different leaderships and different ways to lead. There are leaders in homes. There are moms that are leading, that are disciplining the kids well. There are husbands who are leaders at work. Leadership is everywhere. I think it's such a tagline that is so often thrown out and misunderstood.

So, when we look at Andrew, there is so much encouragement because he's not very vocal. He's more humble. He's behind the scenes. He gets excited about being behind the scenes and propping up anyone and everyone else. But there are some qualities in Andrew that I want to look at.

Now we're looking at three H's. These H's are what made Andrew such a phenomenal leader.

Hope. Thanks be to God that there is hope to-day. That quote has a hyphen in it. Like, there's not hope in the generic term of today, there is hope to day. This very hour, you can choose him and serve him. So, this idea that hope is followed after faith... Faith is knowing it's going to happen. Hope is believing it can happen.

We see that right here from the text in **7 Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"** They are talking about feeding the 5,000. Philip is like, "There's no way bro. We're not feeding 5,000. And Andrew, a man full of hope, a man believing in Jesus. **8 Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, 9 "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"**

Andrew has hope. "We have something and you're Jesus and you can make a lot out of nothing. So, let's see if this works." Get hope. He had hope. He didn't see how the math would add up, but he had hope. That might be where you're at today. You don't know how you're going to get out of financial debt or a wayward child or... fill in the blank. But don't lose hope. It's one of the most beautiful qualities of Andrew. He did not lose hope.

10 Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there)... You know the story. He fed all of them. I'm pretty sure Andrew's hope increased significantly after that moment. And he probably never alluded to the negative situation, he just focused on the solution from there on out. **11 Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.**

I talk with my staff all the time. I say let's look at solutions, not problems. Andrew was full of finding solutions and not problems. He was looking at the solution solver – Jesus. I don't know how this is going to work, but I know Jesus can figure it out.

Humility. I talked about this. Humility is amazing. *Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less.* So, when we see Andrew, we see humility, and here's why in Mathew 4: 8-22 and Luke 5: 1-11 we see this idea of humility in Andrew.

How many of you have ever heard the name of Edward Kimble? How many of you have ever heard the name Mordecai Ham? How many of you have heard the name, Dwight L. Moody? How many of you have heard of the name Billy Graham? Just so you know, Edward Kimble is who got Dwight L. Moody's train on the tracks. And Mordecai Ham is who led Billy Graham to Christ. So, two names that most of you in here have never heard of, and then two more names that almost all of you have heard of. But there was somebody faithful that got that next rock to drop in the ocean to have a ripple effect that had a significant impact. Andrew was Edward Kimble. Andrew was Mordecai Ham.

Andrew was willing to be behind the scenes to prop up and equip whoever would follow after him to impact the kingdom of God. That's who Andrew was. He walked on that humility.

Honest. *True virtue is when you are honest not because it profits you or makes you feel better, but only when you are smitten with the beauty of God who is truth and sincerity and faithfulness.* – Johnathan Edwards

It says in John 1, **40 Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ).**

The most difficult thing for an addict to do is be honest. Be honest with your spouse when you blow it. And be honest with yourself with where you are at. That's the most difficult thing for us as human beings. The road to recovery, whether you're a drug addict, an alcoholic, a porn addict, a gambling addict, a gaming addict, whatever addiction you may have, and they come in so many different forms. The road to recovery, the only way you can begin the road to recovery is first being honest about where you're at and who you are. And understanding who he is and your desperate need for him.

If there is no honesty, there is no leadership. If there's no honesty, there is no road to recovery. And so the enemy with limited names compared to Jesus, will try to get you to cover up and to lie and to fabricate and to prevent from ever having to be honest and transparent because honesty and transparency frightens you. Honesty and transparency about where you are *because you think if people knew where I was, they would never accept me as a friend or I would never be welcome in this church.* That's a lie straight from the pit of hell. That's not true at all. If you know anything about Woodland Hills, and if you know anything, more importantly, about your Savior, Jesus Christ, he takes you just as you are. And, by the way, he knows the honest you. He knows the true you. And he says "I love you just the way you are." He says, "There is no past, present, or future sin of yours that has more power than the cross of Jesus Christ. The ownership that we have to take? Is the honest part. It's who are we, and how desperately we need Jesus?"

So, when you look at Peter and you look at Andrew, you see two individuals who were completely different in their leadership, yet deeply impactful. Let me tell you why they are so impactful.

A couple of weeks ago, we had an Easter service. Ted shared on the resurrection and laid out the gospel beautifully. It was powerful. And just the power of your life of allowing people to see the risen Christ in you. That's part of honesty, part of humility, part of them seeing the hope in you, part of you taking initiative, and being inquisitive and asking other people questions so they see you're actually interested in them and being intentional in those things.

Two weeks ago, I was up in Kansas City getting an acai bowl at a place called Ever Bowl. One of my mentors up there, Darrell Shemwell, who has been pouring into me for the last 15 years. I went up there and we got an acai bowl from Ever bowl. Our whole conversation was around Jesus. I don't think anything about the young lady behind the table that took my order. I sit down and I'm just eating. We're talking about Jesus and he's talking about his new resource, talking about a bible software, what God had done in our ministry this year. We're just having a great conversation. He's been a great supporter of ours throughout the years.

I get up to leave and the little girl behind the counter says, "Excuse me, sir. Can I talk to you for a second? I said absolutely. I walk up to her, and she has tears in coming down her face. I asked what was going on. She said, "I prayed this morning that if God was real, he would reveal himself to me. She said, "I've been extremely depressed. I haven't wanted to live, and all you've talked about since the time you walked into my store was Jesus. She said, "Thank you." I asked her name. She said, "Sophia." I said, "Sophia, can I pray for you?" My friend, Darrell, comes over and we pray for her. My son got to see it. We went back out to the car and realized we forgot to tip her. I sent my buddy back in there to tip her.

Your humility, your intentionality, and your inquisitiveness matter, and God sees you.

But when we look at Andrew and Peter, I want you to think we're going back to Ted's service on Easter Sunday. So, if you walked in here today and you don't know where you're at with Jesus, let me talk to you about the 12 that followed him, including Andrew and Peter. Here's my point to what I'm about to close with. If Andrew and Peter never see the resurrected Christ, they spend three years with him, he says all these things are going to happen, and then they don't happen, they're booting it, and they're not trusting in him. They are going back to being fishermen. We know they went back to being fishermen because when Peter was reinstated, he was fishing. After he blows it and denies him three times, he comes back to him and reinstates him while he's fishing. He went back to what he knew, but that's not how he died.

Andrew was crucified on an X-shaped cross, unworthy to die on the same type of cross as his Lord and Savior died. Bartholomew was flayed alive with knives. James the elder was slain by Herod. James was crucified. Afterward, his body was sawed into pieces. Philip was killed by hanging while he was grasping for air. He requested that his dead body be wrapped in papyrus and not in fine linen like Jesus had been wrapped. Peter, Simon was crucified upside down unworthy to die on the same type cross his Lord and Savior had died. Mathew and Simon – History records that they disappeared as missionaries, and probably died as martyrs. Thomas was summoned to build a palace in India where he was run through with a spear.

Ladies and gentlemen, you do not die that death if you didn't see the resurrected Christ. And because he lives in you, and because he lives, he can use people that are broken, that are messed up, and have got junk, and write amazing stories out of them. If you're willing to take that first step. Ole George Whitefield, help me to begin where to begin, Lord. He loves you right where you are at. You have to give him your heart. You have to be willing to surrender,

Father God, thank you so much for this day. Thank you for the example of Peter and Andrew and so many people throughout the gospel. I just pray, Lord, help us to begin where to begin. What would you do with us, what would you do with our lives? What would you do with our retirement. What would you do with our teenage years? What would you do with our vocational years? How would you use us in this season we are at? Lord, help us not to miss it. Thank you for your grace. Thank you for your cross. Thank you for your goodness. We love you so much and we are so thankful.

It's in your powerful and pure name we pray, Jesus. And all God's people said... Amen