

LOVE FOR THE LOST

John 1:35-42

Introduction: There are many great things one can do for another, bring healing as a doctor might, teach or train in some area, or represent someone in a legal matter as a lawyer could. These and many more are wonderful ways in helping people, but the greatest thing that one can do for another is to lead that person to the Lord Jesus.

The text is about such a thing. One person leading another to the Lord Jesus, Andrew bringing his brother, Simon, or Peter as he becomes better know as, to Jesus.

I. THERE WAS BELIEF IN JESUS AND THEN AN INTEREST IN TELLING SOMEONE

1. Andrew was an ordinary person, nothing super special, just like anybody today.
2. Andrew found out about Jesus, believed in Jesus, then wanted to tell somebody about what had happened.
3. Andrew is the perfect example for every christian, to want to tell somebody about Jesus.

II. INTEREST IN WANTING TO TELL ABOUT JESUS WILL BRING ACTION

1. Andrew went straight home. He started in his own home, with his own family, a brother.
2. His brother Simon (Peter) was not an easy person to talk to especially to convince.
3. In his own way Andrew told his brother about Jesus. Did his brother believe him right away?
4. Andrew took his brother to Jesus to see for himself if what he had told him wasn't true.
5. The example of Andrew is for the christian to start in his/her own home among family.
 - It is a sad thing when christian parents leave it to the church to tell their children about Jesus and how to become a christian.
6. The next step in telling about Jesus is to go to friends; people next door, play mates, pals, girlfriends, buddies, co-workers, everybody one is "close" to.
 - There needs to be that "personal" approach, which stresses the importance of what one wants to say.
 - Wouldn't a friend listen to a friend before listening to a stranger?

III. THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR A CHRISTIAN NOT TO BE TELLING OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

1. God has nobody else in mind but His church, His children to tell others about Jesus.
2. God has no other method in mind to be used by His children other than their becoming involved personally in telling about Jesus.
3. How did Jesus get His message out? By telling it Himself and then by sending some of His followers out after telling them what to say.
4. Perhaps the greatest negative about most christians is that of not being personally involved in telling others about Jesus. Judgement day will give opportunity for that unwilling christian to explain why he/she didn't tell anybody about Jesus.

IV. HOW DOES ONE BECOME A WITNESS - BRING SOMEONE TO JESUS?

1. Obviously that person must know Jesus him/herself personally and want to tell others.
2. The Word of God is to be presented for it is not what man says but what God says that is important.
3. Most christians already know what the Bible says about how to become a christian and can either quote the verses or quickly find them in the Bible.
4. Non-christians must be informed that they were born separated from God:
 - that God loves them and wants them to be in His family.
 - that Jesus is the one that can bring them into God's family and give them eternal life.
 - that one must want to be a child of God and is willing to give up whatever God wants and will do whatever God says and then tell God that from the heart.
5. One must allow the Holy Spirit to guide through the time of telling about Jesus and not force that person to make a decision right then.
6. One might share his/her own experience in becoming a child of God as that was what Andrew did with his brother Simon (Peter).

V. TO BE A WITNESS AS GOD WANTS ONE TO BE, ONE MUST CARE ABOUT THOSE WHO ARE STILL NOT GOD'S CHILDREN

1. Sadly to so many who are not christians, the christians they do know don't seem to care whether they become christians or not as they have never talked to them about Jesus.
2. How much care does it take for a christian to go to a non-christian and tell that person about Jesus?
3. The christian is commanded by Jesus to "...go and tell..."
4. If the christian, the child of God, doesn't tell those who are not God's children about Jesus, what will happen to those who don't know?

CONCLUSION:

1. All around the child of God there are those who don't know about Jesus. What does God want?
2. What's the best thing a person can do for another? Lead them to Jesus.
3. That person who is told about Jesus and believes in Jesus, and becomes a child of God is not the only person happy: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, the Angels in Heaven and.....that child of God who lead that person to Jesus.
4. Want to be happy? Obey God and bring someone to His Son Jesus.