

- ✍ **Luke 6:12-16**, We started last week being introduced to these common men with an uncommon call. Jesus appoints only 12 of these guys; it seems like He would have appointed hundreds given the caliber of these individuals.
- ✍ All but one are Galileans who are considered illiterates, simple folk, blue collar people, and have no formal educations. These are the ones who are to proclaim the gospel, establish the church, oversee the writing and transmission of the New Testament and change the world.
- ✍ None of us bring anything to the table and when we think that we do, we hinder His work. The key is that they were nothing and knew it and were completely surrendered to Him. That's the big message about these men.

1. We've met the leader of the apostles, Peter, and today we are going to meet his brother and their two fishing partners.

- ✓ Andrew is harder to know than his older brother, Peter, because unlike Peter, he's a background person. We get a portrait in full color of Peter, but Andrew, we only get a silhouette of him.
 - ✓ Even though it's on the shores of Sea that Jesus calls these four apostles, it's not where Peter and Andrew first meet Him, **John 1:35-38**.
 - ✓ One of those was Andrew, **John 1:40**. The first thing he does is tell his brother Peter, **John 1:41-42**. This snapshot basically tells what Andrew did with his life; he brought people to Jesus, starting with his family. The next time we see him is in **John 6**.
 - ✓ On another occasion in **John 12**, 4 Gentiles approach Phillip and ask to see Jesus. Phillip isn't sure what to do, so he brings them to Andrew, who brings them to Jesus. Andrew was a person who connected people to Jesus.
-

2. Next, we'll meet the first of Peter and Andrew's fishing partners: James.

- ✓ James is another apostle, like Andrew, who we only have a silhouette of in Scriptures. What we can know of him can be inferred from two episodes in his early apostleship.
- ✓ **Luke 9**, Jesus named James and John Boanerges = "Sons of Thunder." They were rash and impulsive, zealous and insensitive. As we've been saying, the only people that Jesus has to work with are people who are problems that need to be solved.
- ✓ Jesus solved the problem named James. He took that zeal and converted it into a great leader. **Acts 12:1-2**, Why when he wants to stop the growth of the church, does he kill James? James became a spiritual powerhouse, a force of God.

3. John, the apostle of love.

- ✓ John is called the apostle of love because he focused so much on Jesus' teachings on love in his books and letters. Unlike Andrew and James, we don't have just a silhouette of this apostle; we have a full color portrait.
 - ✓ We have 5 books of the New Testament written by him and a long life and testimony within the early church. He is very much like his brother in ambition, zeal, impulsiveness, and ruthlessness, so how did this guy become known as the apostle of love? God is a miracle worker!
 - ✓ Two things that characterized John were truth and love; two irreplaceable qualities that are critical for the kingdom of God. But by the time he writes his gospel, John doesn't call himself by name once, he simply refers to himself as "the apostle who Jesus loved." Nevertheless, steadfast in the truth, **1st John 1:6; 1:10; 2:22**, but balanced with love. **1st John 4:7-12**, In spite of their limitations and everything that they were not, **God used them**.
-
-
-