

Series: Life to the Full; Sermon: **What Are You Seeking?**

Delivered by: **Dr. Josh Moody**, senior pastor; Date: **September 10, 2017**

Bible text explored: John 1:35–42

³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). ⁴²He 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). [ESV]

Review and application:

1. Pastor Josh focused on “*Andrew the bringer*” who brought his brother Simon to Jesus. Can you share with your group one story of someone during your lifetime whom God used to bring someone to Jesus? (Could be you, or a relative, a spouse, a friend, a business associate, fellow student.) How have you seen God glorified through that convert?
2. Pastor Josh identified 3 progressive steps in the narrative that are still relevant for those who follow Andrew’s godly example of helping lead people to Jesus.

Step 1: **Listen** (Jn 1:35-37)

3. What message did Andrew hear? (Spoiler: Do you think this was the first time Andrew heard this message from John the Baptist?)
 - a. Did Andrew have a better opportunity to hear this message about the Lamb of God than we do today?
 - b. How do simplicity, clarity, and repetition – important elements in teaching/story-telling – play out in John 1? What do you learn from that?
4. How do the following statements affect your ability to listen? What can you learn?
 - a. “Many people don’t listen, but just wait for their turn to talk.”
 - b. “We put barriers around our ears until we hear voices that align with our points of view, and then we listen to confirm what we already know.”
5. Application: To be an Andrew we have to...? How will you set that up to happen?

Step 2: **Follow** (vv. 38-39)

6. In John’s day, “following” meant literally walking behind the rabbi. What would the disciple learn from that? How do we “follow”? What do we learn from following?
7. “What are you seeking?” resulted in Jesus’s disciples seeing where Jesus stayed and actually staying with Him, perhaps a metaphor for abiding, a key theme in the book of John. What are actions – resources provided by God – to help you abide in Jesus?
8. Is it possible to “follow” but not “abide”?

Step 3: **Invite** (vv. 40-42)

9. Andrew found his brother Simon, told him what he had discovered about Jesus and brought him. Discuss with your group helpful (and unhelpful) steps on how to invite people to know more about your Jesus.
10. “*A personal invitation of persons you know can cut through the religious noise.*” What does that statement of Pastor Josh’s mean to you?

Close with group prayer asking Jesus’s help to put into practice what you’ve learned about listening, following, and inviting.