

NOVEMBER 30, 2019
Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle
Matthew 4: 18-22

BE A GOOD AND FAITHFUL WITNESSES

Jesus chooses the apostles for what they can become. This is our reminder for today's celebration on the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle. Jesus Christ chooses ordinary people to do great things for the Kingdom of God. Why He chooses them? He chooses them because He sees in them the willingness and openness of their heart to become messengers of the gospel, peacemakers, examples of humility, docile to learn and live the mission and ready to sacrifice their lives for the sake of the Kingdom even unto death.

Jesus Christ went every where to speak about the Kingdom of God. He went to the streets, towns, synagogues, plaza, hills and lakeside of Galilee. Because He knew that He can not do it alone, He chose to be His closest friends and co-workers those who were ready to follow His mission: to catch people for the Kingdom of God.

His first apostles were Peter, Andrew, James and John, the smelly fishermen, ordinary people, non-professional, no wealth or position of power or fame in society. He wanted them to take an assignment with a zealous heart and humility, to do it in an extraordinary way. He chose these "ordinary people" not for what they were, but for what they would become through His loving guidance and good example.

My brothers and sisters, like St. Andrew and other Apostles and Saints, Jesus Christ also calls each of us to be His faithful apostles and messengers of the gospel. We are ordinary people but with a heart willing to listen to His instructions, open to what He wants us to do and humble even in failures and successes. He sees that to you, to us. He can use us for the greater glory of God. You can do great things for God because you are

great in the first place, created in His image and likeness. We can be the hands, the feet, the eyes, the ears of God to others as we listen, embrace, love, care and welcome other people.

So, let us ask the intercession of St. Andrew that we may be a good and faithful witnesses of God's Kingdom to all we meet and share the joy of the gospel to others through our good example in words and in deeds.

St. Andrew, pray for us.