

MORE ON OPERATION ANDREW!

HELLO CHURCH!

This past weekend we launched one of the biggest movements in our church so far!!

“OPERATION ANDREW”

Our mission: To bring people to Jesus.

On Sunday, I talked about how **Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to meet Jesus**. (Peter was one of the most influential disciples of Jesus in spreading the gospel! - can you imagine how different it would be if Andrew hadn't said anything?)

SO LET'S CLARIFY! What is Operation Andrew really all about? Operation Andrew is about the fact that **“God has called each one of us to be like Andrew”**. Andrew didn't “evangelize” or have an awkward conversation with Peter about where his faith was at! NO! **He brought Him to where Jesus was!**

SO WHERE IS JESUS???

Jesus is wherever his people are! He is at your **E-Group**, your **family dinner**, and he will be at **Evening in the Park!** Most importantly, he is at ASPIRE CHURCH every **Sunday morning!**

Who do you know who isn't a follower of Jesus? Who do you know who is “lost?” Maybe it is the lady at the dry cleaners who always talks about her kids...or maybe the security guard at your office who always strikes up a conversation with you.

On Sunday, each person received 2 small cards (and we have lots more if you weren't there). We asked everyone to write down 3 names of people they know who need to be brought to Jesus; 3 people who have either never met Jesus, or who have walked away from Jesus. And here's what we're asking each person to do:

1. Pray for them daily
2. Bring them to:
 - a. Sunday service
 - b. E-Group
 - c. Evening in the Park
 - d. Shooting and Grilling day.
3. Love them as brothers and sisters...continue a relationship with them!

These people are “lost”, and this doesn't mean they are part of a cancelled TV show. Lost means--dying. Dying spiritually which eventually leads to a permanent, lonely, physical death. Without a relationship with Jesus, these friends, neighbors, co-workers are tragically, not heaven bound.

I have seen passion and determination and urgency to save dogs from horrific situations. Acts of kindness, sacrifice, and love to save precious animals from death, and suffering—from being lost. As Christians we are called to have that same passion and urgency for the people around us who have not yet received the amazing gift of God's Grace and salvation!

Want to hear a quick story?!?!?

This past week Katie Francis of Oklahoma City OK, sold 18,107 boxes of girl scout cookies. When asked how she did it... she said:

Time—time is short; use it wisely.

Commitment—Having a lofty goal or desire is nice, and it's a start. But nothing gets done without discipline and action! Sometimes—you have to do it!

Going for the ask!!—Fear can hold us back from being an open door for God's love to walk through in someone's life. A decision made out fear—is never a good one; think about it.

Girl scout cookies are pretty good...but they don't compare to the privilege of knowing Christ! If Katie can sell 18,107 boxes of cookies with that kind of passion and commitment—can't we have the same passion and commitment to bringing people one step closer to Jesus?

Where is Jesus?? Well everywhere for certain--- but I know for a fact He is at Aspire!!

So on the 2nd card you were given, you were asked to write the same 3 names on, and give it back to us, and here's why: We too are praying for the people you wrote down! EVERYDAY! And we're getting really excited about you bringing these people to Aspire so we can meet the people behind the names we're praying for!

If you weren't there on Sunday, here's what we're going to ask of you. Choose 3 people you're putting on your Operation Andrew list, 3 people you want to have meet Jesus. Also, send us those 3 names so we can pray for them too. You can send them to office@aspirechurchaz.com.

We will also continue to remind you of any upcoming events and dates that you can use as opportunities to reach and bring your friends! Through all of our prayer, action and faith we know we will embody our mission of "Bringing people one step closer to Christ", by each of us "being an Andrew!"

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jonathan
"Pjb"
Discipleship and Teaching Pastor