

The Lamb of God Calls the First Disciples [John 1:29–42a]

Identity crisis: not so for John the Baptist and Jesus

- *I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness*
- *Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!*

The OT prophet John uses a double OT allusion to the identity of Jesus

- *Passover Lamb of God* of Exodus 12 and scapegoat of Leviticus 16 that *takes away the sin of the world*

As the Lamb of God Jesus says to every one of us – you are no longer a sinner

- 2 Corinthians 5:21 - ²¹ *For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God*

John the Baptist makes hay with the well-known slogan of the Lutheran Hour – *We Preach Christ Crucified*

TEXT TRANSITION: John exits – Jesus takes center stage

- Andrew and John hear the words: *Behold, the Lamb of God* and follow Jesus
- In fact, they must catch up to Jesus who questions them: *What do you want?*

Evangelism 101: The first thing Andrew does after spending a day with Jesus is find his brother Simon and say: We have found the Messiah (which means Christ)

- We know little about Andrew other than he is the first called disciple yet his trademark is bringing people to Jesus

[MBWA] - Jesus meets people in their vocations and the vagaries of life

- D.L. Moody on evangelism
- Lord Protector Oliver Cromwell allegory about doing evangelism
- Cromwell's point is driven home at Messiah Lutheran – a short lived church planting in Waldorf

If Saint Andrew came to an evangelism meeting – he would say let the conversation begin

- Andrew is not put off by the nones - he remains committed to five simple words
- The more people think about and engage faith practices – the more they talk about it

CS Lewis pegged our digital culture in 1946

- Science explains life while busyness – work, entertainment, always-on technology fills up life
- Saint Andrew Snapchat power user!

As shown by Saint Andrew – the majority of faith conversations that lead to transformative life change happen face to face with a close friend or family member

- Stay with Jesus and tell others you have found him – Jesus will do the rest
- John 14:6 – *Jesus is the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through him* [You can say this to others]