

Sermon Series: UNLIKELY HEROES

Sermon Title: The Ground Crew

Biblical Passage: John 1: 35-42

Passage Background and Summary

In this passage from John's gospel, Jesus begins calling his disciples. At the beginning of the passage John the Baptist stands with two of his disciples, and upon seeing Jesus walk by tells the two that Jesus is the Lamb of God, and the two follow him. Later on in these verses, it is revealed that one of two new followers of Jesus is Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. Andrew tells his brother that he has found the Messiah. Simon Peter followed Jesus too. Simon Peter ultimately became the rock upon which Jesus built the church.

Sermon Points

Pastor Warnock continued his series, Unlikely Heroes by lifting up ordinary people who are not in the limelight, but who perform functions that are essential to the community of faith. Pastor used the metaphor a ground crew, borrowing from Dr. King who often talked about the importance of those who were a part of the Civil Rights Movement who supported the movements in seemingly small and ordinary ways, but without whom the Movement wouldn't have been possible. While a pilot gains the spotlight for flying the plane, without the ground crew the plane would never be able to take off or land. In the highlighted passage, while it is Peter who gains the limelight and becomes one of the best-known disciples, Andrew is the unlikely hero because it was he who led his brother, Simon Peter to Jesus. It was the power of Andrew's testimony about Jesus that led Simon to follow the Savior and ultimately to become the foundation of the church of Jesus Christ.

Discussion/Reflection Questions

1. What "ordinary" things has God called you to that can make an extraordinary difference?
2. Whose testimony led you to follow Christ?
3. How have you used your own testimony about who you know Jesus to be to lead others to Him?
4. Who's on your "ground crew"? Whose "ground crew" are you on?
5. How can we, the church, show more love and respect to the "ordinary people" in our midst?