



Philips, Andrews, and Allergies [John 6:1-13]

Are you more of a "Phillip" or an "Andrew"? In what way?

How would you answer the question "What is Jesus all about?"

Is your answer related to your own current values and thoughts?

If yes, is that automatically a bad thing?

Has the answer to that question changed over the years?

Serving Christ In Our Humanness
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Share a view that another Christian might have about God, Jesus, or church, that tends to make you immediately suspect that the two of you are probably *not going to be best-friends*. (e.g., all believers should speak in tongues; true disciples of Jesus go on missions; women shouldn't teach in church; art is worldly; etc.)

What personal stake, if any, do you have in the issue?

Dan talked about the temptation of blurring the line between our God-given *gifts*, such as, our administrative, artistic, musical, and intellectual gifts, and our God-given *identity*, namely, that we're children of God dearly loved by Him.

What can be the consequences of wrongly basing our identity on our gifts or abilities?

What God-given gift/ability/skill are you in danger of staking your identity on? For example, thinking "I am a teacher/artist/intellectual/etc." as opposed to "I am a child of God who happens to have teaching/artistic/thinking gifts."

Who would be left if God suddenly took away all your gifts? Would you still be you? Do you believe that you would be equally as loved and cherished by God, the church, and/or the world?

Share a time when you witnessed God do something amazing through a fellow believer who doesn't have any of the spiritual gifts you have, but has completely different gifts than your own.

An emotional allergy is a personal knee-jerk emotional reaction you might have against a certain type of personality, but that other people don't have.

Share an emotional allergy you might have. Is there someone from your past who wronged you, that helps explain your particular allergy to that type of person? What happened?

Why is it comforting to think that every person who reminds us of the person who hurt us, shouldn't exist?

Why does that belief make our world feel like a safer place?

Dan paraphrased a book: "Every hostile feeling we have toward a fellow human being's existence, is actually an expression of anger at the Sovereign God who created that person in the first place." Do you agree with that statement?

Why is it easier to sustain our anger against a fellow human being, than it is against God?

In your opinion, what was Jesus testing Phillip about?