The story goes that when Pope Pius XII died in 1958, the cardinals squabbled over his successor. Pius had been pope for thirty years, and no clear leader had emerged. So they chose a man they thought would leave things alone, Angelo Roncalli. Three months later, this new pope, John XXIII, announced to a shocked world that he would convene an ecumenical council, Vatican II. Committed to the church, enthusiastic for his work, John invited new ideas and enlivened the church he loved. You never know what somebody will do when you pick them for a job.

So here's Jesus, picking up a few disciples to begin his work, and Andrew, committed to Christ, enthusiastic for his work, hauls in his brother Simon--an impetuous, cowardly, deceitful, and profoundly stupid man. Yet by his faith and martyrdom, Peter too gave life to the church.

Whenever we commit to something, we like to get other people on board, whether it's life insurance, Amway, prayers to St. Jude, chain letters, or volunteering for the PTO. Commitment brings enthusiasm, and that leads to evangelization--you gotta come try this. Andrew spent one evening with Jesus and couldn't wait to invite his brother.

However, enthusiasm is hard to maintain. We get sluggish and long for the days when prayer was deep, faith was strong, and families were loving. New life can come from a strong leader or new ideas, but often we block it. We're too tired to try or afraid to fail. Jesus' call to discipleship extends to us. "What are you looking for?" he asks. "Where are you staying?" we reply. "Come and see," he says. Try praying with your family again; try a new style. Try inviting someone to church with you; see what happens. Try asking someone to consider a religious vocation. It costs nothing, and it can renew your faith. Come and see. Where would we be if John XXIII never tried Vatican II?

Enthusiasm flags when commitment fades. If you feel committed, let it show; if you need commitment, try something. Then when anyone asks, "Where is Christ staying?" we can say, "Come and see."