



Finding Success in Fishing for Men

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Finding Success in Fishing for Men - Luke 5

A dream of mine has always been to be successful at fishing.

We all want to be a success when it comes to ...

Relationships, marriage, education, spiritual life, serving in Christian ministry, sharing our faith.

1. Spiritual success comes when we commit to communicate Truth

Jesus spoke truth plainly

- a. He was teaching (vs. 3) and people were listening to the Word of God.
- b. Do people long for this today? Today people long for truth – spoken plainly, authentically, and with practical application.
- c. Where can this happen today? Small group where the word of God is being taught!

Jesus used common means to communicate truth

- d. Boat became pulpit
 - i. Jesus used what ever was at his disposal to effectively communicate the Word of God.
 - ii. We need to be flexible – As classes fill up, as classrooms get to small; as classrooms need to be changed and moved - We must use what is at our disposal to effectively communicate the Word of God.
 - iii. When people come – we need to adjust.

Jesus used variety in His teaching methods

- e. He used what was in from of Him and applied it to life – water, bread, vines, rocks, trees, water basins, etc.
- f. Teachable moments are all around you?
- g. Illus: If fish aren't biting, change your bait.
- h. Notice people were willing to learn with others.
- i. Are you learning so you can teach others? Are you putting yourself under someone to learn the word of God.

2. Spiritual success comes when we commit to exercise faith.

Ultimately, we are a people of faith. Jesus knew if Peter was going to follow him he must learn to be a person of faith.

Jesus' challenge (vs.4)

- a. "Put out into the deep water and let down you nets for a catch."
- b. Was this a carpenter telling a fisherman how to fish? Yet He was more than a carpenter.

Peter complained (vs. 5a)

- a. "We worked had all night and caught nothing."
- b. Peter was discouraged and tired. He was looking at his work from a completely human and rational perspective.

Peter complied (vs. 5b)

- c. "I will do as you say and let down the nets"
- d. Are you ever a reluctant "obeyer?"
- e. Could it be that Jesus wants to do through us what we cannot do ourselves?
- f. Could it be that we have tried to accomplish His work in our flesh? Have we done it His way in His strength?

Peter caught (vs. 6)

- g. "We caught nothing" – a statement of here and now
- h. "Enclosed a great quality of fish" – faith became a reality. They filled two boats.
- i. Peter changed his methods in faith and realized a harvest. Great leaders do what others are not willing to do.
- j. What are you willing to do?

Peter confessed (vs. 8)

- k. "God away from me Lord, I am a sinful man."
- l. He saw God use him as he was; now he can be used.
- m. He saw His lack of faith.
- n. Our statements:
 - i. I don't need to ...
 - ii. I don't want to ...
 - iii. I shouldn't be asked to do ...
 - iv. I have done that before ...
 - v. I have asked before ...

- o. They are all statements of a lack of faith – maybe we need to get on our knees and
 - i. Pray more
 - ii. Confess more
 - iii. Humble ourselves more
 - iv. Trust more
 - v. Seek holiness more
 - vi. Submit ourselves more
 - vii. Learn how to dig into the Word of God
- p. Then we might watch God do what he wants through us.

3. Spiritual success comes when we commit to become fishers of men

Amazement realized

- a. Once God has used you – you see yourself and Him differently
- b. Others want to follow as well.

Calling was extended

- c. “Do not fear, for now on you will be catching men.”
 - d. Other passages say, “I will make you to become fishers of men.”
- B. What was transferable to ministry? The principles of fishing in the Ancient Near East are transferable to leadership and provide a model for what it means to be a leader:

- ◇ Time invested in others
- ◇ Push past the fear
- ◇ Learn from others the art of fishing
- ◇ Share your story
- ◇ Live out your faith with others

Left everything to follow Him

- a. They obeyed and counted the cost of discipleship – They risked it all to follow him!

Why would they leave everything?

Are You Amazed? (Ingnitermedia.com)

http://www.tangle.com/view_video?viewkey=2dfdc46320d68bb56a67