



Walk

WITH

me



Walk WITH *Me*

Fishers of Men

Matt 4:19,20; Mark 1:17,18;

Luke 5:10,11

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*We are to be fishermen –
not salesmen at a fish market!*

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Matt 4:18 Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.

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19 And He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

20 Immediately they left their nets and followed Him.

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Mark 1:17 And Jesus said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.”

18 Immediately they left their nets and followed Him.

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Luke 5:10 and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not fear, from now on you will be catching men.”

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11 When they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

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Making – “I will make”

- Following – ‘immediately’
- Learning – Matt 5-7
- Doing – 70 sent out (Luke 10)
- Failing – Mark 9 demon – faith, prayer, fasting
- Leaving – Great Commission

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Making – “I will make”

DISCIPLESHIP STEPS

- I will show you
- You will help me
- I will help you
- I will send you (call me)

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“When Christ calls us by his grace we ought not only to remember what we are, but we ought also to think of what he can make us. It is, ‘Follow me, and I will make you.’”

How To Become Fishers of Men by C.H. Spurgeon

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“When Jesus had finished giving instructions to His twelve disciples, He departed from there to teach and preach in their cities.”

Matt 11:1

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Making – “I will make”

- Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.” Matthew 16:24
- Deny – the World
- Take up – the Cross
- Follow Me – relentless passion (Luke 19:41)

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"If sinners be damned, at least let them leap to Hell over our bodies. If they will perish, let them perish with our arms about their knees. Let no one go there unwarned and unprayed for." Charles Spurgeon

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Matthew 4

“casting a net into the sea (for they were fishermen)” (v. 18),

“they left their nets” (v. 20),

“mending their nets” (v. 21).

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Men – “fishers of men”

- “The imagery of using a lure and a line (and waiting for the fish to strike!) is thus foreign to this text. Jesus is not speaking about finesse (as in fly fishing) or using the right kind of bait. The imagery has nothing to do with “hooking” the unbeliever with the gospel. Further, the picture is not individualistic: the point is not one person being reeled in at a time. All of this has to do with line-fishing, but this is not the picture seen in this text.” Dr. Daniel Wallace

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Very different ideas of fishing:

Net fishing for food and vocation

Line fishing for hobby and fun

Net fishing is work

Line fishing is relaxation

Net fishing expects fish

Line fishing hopes fish

Net fishing is broadcast net

Line fishing is deception and guile

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Men – “fishers of men”

- The strenuousness of evangelism (unlike line-fishing, which is often caricatured as a way to get a good nap, net-fishing is very labor-intensive)
- The work ethic that it required more than a focus on the skill involved
- The persistence and dedication to the task (often in spite of minimal results)
- The infinite value of the new “catch” (people)

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“Evangelism is not a professional job for a few trained men, but is instead the unrelenting responsibility of every person who belongs to the company of Jesus.”

D. Elton Trueblood

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Method – “fishers”

- Taking them from where they are
- Showing them truth (not bait!)
- Leading them to Jesus (not Church)
- Walking beside them to maturity (‘all things’)
- Preach – Pray – Repeat!

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*“A church that doesn’t evangelize
will fossilize.”*

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“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”

John 3:16

Fishers of Men

- People are not projects - LOVE
- Gospel is not without purpose - LOVE
- Invitation is not without a decision - LOVE
- Commission is not with obedience - LOVE

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“The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed.” Hudson Taylor

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"God has promised forgiveness to your repentance, but He has not promised tomorrow to your procrastination."

Augustine



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