

## Becoming a Fisher of Men ...

Luke 5:1-11 So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret,

2 and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets.

3 Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat.

4 When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

5 But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net."

6 And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking.

7 So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.

8 When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!"

9 For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken;

10 and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men."

11 So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

### I. Requires a process of process of learning:

- You learn by fishing
- You learn from watching others fish

### II. Requires Involvement:

- \* Filling your nets requires you to become a fisherman
- \* Filling your nets requires you to be obedient to His instructions
- \* Filling your nets requires you to not be dismayed by past fishing trips

### III. Requires Faith & Wisdom:

#### **A. The field is ripe for harvest (John 4:34-38)**

John 4:34-38 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.

35 "Do you not say, 'There are still four months and [then] comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!

36 "And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together.

37 "For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.'

38 "I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."

#### **B. Pray for Laborers (Luke 10:2)**

Luke 10:2 Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.

#### **C. Pray for wisdom (Proverbs 11:30; Daniel 12:3; James 1:5)**

Proverbs 11:30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life,  
And he who wins souls is wise.

Daniel 12:3 Those who are wise shall shine  
Like the brightness of the firmament,  
And those who turn many to righteousness  
Like the stars forever and ever.

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

#### **D. Pray for all men (I Timothy 2:1-4)**

1 Timothy 2:1-4 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,  
2 for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.  
3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,  
4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

#### **IV. Requires Love:**

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

James 5:20 let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.

Jude 1:21-23 keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.  
22 And on some have compassion, making a distinction;  
23 but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.