



THE GOSPEL OF

**MARK**



## Sermon Series Notes

### “Fishers of Men” (Mark 1:14-20)

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I have never been more excited about teaching a message from the Word of God as I am about this one. Why? Because it springboards from one of my favorite hobbies. Not only that, my Savior is very good at this hobby. As a matter of fact, I know of no one better. What is this hobby of mine that Jesus is so good at? Let me show you (show fishing video, pics).

Read the text, Mark 1:14-20.

#### **Why do people like fishing so much?**

i tried to like it but its so boring yet i see so many people that would fish all day long if they could, they do it on vacation and whenever they can. i tried fishing like 3 or 4 times and all you do is sit their for a long time and wait. The only thing nice about it is it gives you and exuse to go to cool places like lakes and like the ocean like with your family.

By the misspelled words and the number of times the above person said “like” I would ascertain that they are fairly young, are fairly ignorant. Let me tell you something right from the start, or the “get go.” Fishing with Jesus is anything but boring.

I don’t like fishing, but I love catching. And Jesus knows how to catch fish!

Stories of Jesus telling Peter to cast the net on the other side...Luke 5:1-11; John 21:1-11.

Jesus knows how to catch fish. And guess what? He also know how to catch men!

The first prerequisite for becoming a fisher of men?

- Follow Jesus
  - If I’m really following Jesus, I should be catching men. If I’m not catching men for Jesus, am I really following Him? To follow Jesus means to obey, to follow His lead. Refer again to Luke 5:4-5; Acts 8:26ff (Philip & the Ethiopian eunuch); Acts 10 (Peter & Cornelius); Jesus & the woman at the well.
  - Mark 16:15 Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.
  - Ezekiel 3:18; 33:8

- Acts 20:26 I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of all men.
- A love for the world
  - Story of man saving drowning black bear
  - Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost (context is Zaccheus' salvation).
  - John 3:16; red & yellow, black & white, they are precious in his sight.
  - Jonah was obedient, despite his lack of love for the people of Nineveh. We could probably say the same about Peter & Cornelius. But in time these men's hearts were changed toward those they naturally despised. See Luke 9:51-55. The longer we follow Jesus, the more our hearts will be changed to become like his.
  - See I Tim.2:1-6; II Peter 3:8-9.
- A willingness to befriend the world
  - Matt.11: 19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and "sinners." ' But wisdom is proved right by her actions."
  - If we're going to reach lost people, we're going to have to be willing to build relationships with them. Note: In building relationships with them, we must be careful to not be pulled back into the life we left in order to follow Jesus. As we befriend the world, we must make sure our closest relationships are with brothers and sisters in Christ.
- Proper equipment
  - I Peter 3:15...Always be prepared to give and answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.
  - Eph.4:12...to prepare God's people for works of service...
  - Hebrews 13:21...equip you with everything good for doing his will.
  - This does not mean that you are able to answer every question that someone asks you about God or the Bible, etc. but it does mean that we should be growing in our ability to respond to legitimate questions about our faith.
  - Display various fishing rods & equipment
  - Me giving book "I Don't Enough Faith To Be An Atheist" to a man one Sunday morning whose wife was a believer and listened to our radio program, but he was an atheist. He later received Christ...
  - You need an OT pole for Jew
  - Show books from my library on various subjects? Promo apologetics class with Brett Craig; John Ankerberg, etc.
- Prayer
  - Col.4:2-3a Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us too, too, **that God may open a door for our message...**
- Good bait
  - A life that attracts people to the hook

- Titus 2:10...so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive.
  - I Peter 3:15-16...Always be prepared to give and answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously about your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.
  - I Tim.2:24-25 And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth.
- The miraculous
  - Acts 2:6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together...
  - Luke 5:12-14
- Tragedy, pig pens, etc.
- The right hook
  - Acts 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.
  - I Timothy 2:5-6a For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as ransom for all men...
  - I Cor.15:3-4 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.