

"Gospel Net"

Matthew 4:19

...Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.

I Will MAKE You!

In Matthew 4 Jesus begins His Ministry. He has just successfully defeated the temptations of the enemy and has set out to do the work His Father sent Him to do. Jesus used the fisherman's boat to teach the multitude. When He was finished He blessed the fishermen (see Luke 5:4-7). After the blessing was received Jesus then gave them instruction, "Follow Me." Jesus in essence was saying IF you follow Me then I will MAKE you. Jesus' instruction to you is the same as it was for the very first disciples, "Follow Me!"

God is reconstructing you and He has equipped you to be an evangelist. He has purposely set you in a particular place for this specific time in order to touch the lives of others. Now these experienced fishermen we read about did not fish with poles but with nets. In order for their business to be lucrative they could not fish with poles that would only allow them to catch 1 fish at a time. God's anointing on your life has equipped you with a net and not a pole. Your sphere of influence will draw a great haul of people to Christ! Every Christian has been given a net and you are not the exception. If you are available God will show you how to bring people to Him.

YOUR NET

No Holes:

Your net has been uniquely designed by God and it consists of your testimonies or your personal story. It's made up of His promises of what He is going to do and what He has already done for you.

It's important to examine your net to make sure there is no holes. Don't live a hole-y life. This is a lifestyle of sin. The more time you spend with God in prayer, in praise, and in study the more like Him you will become. His grace will be available to help you overcome sin. The more you know about the Gospel of Grace available through Jesus the more you will realize how much He loves you

and the more you realize you are loved the healing power of His love will deliver you from the bondage of your sins. Your desires will change and you will want to live a life that is pleasing to Him.

Needs Weight:

In order for the net to be successful in catching fish it must be able to go deep into the water. The deeper your relationship with Jesus the more sensitive you will become to the Holy Spirit in you. His job is to convict you and lead you into the deeper things of God. You need to know, that you know, that you know Jesus without a doubt. You must also believe Him and the promises in His Word.

Cast The Net:

In order for you to be successful in catching people you must throw out the net. God has blessed you in order for you to be a blessing to others. He has given to you that you might give it away. You are not responsible for making people accept Christ, God is responsible for the haul. He will send the "fish" into the net. If you have the faith to cast out into someone else's life then God will bring the provision you need. He will bring the supply. Since you are not responsible for the person accepting Christ don't get discouraged and give up when you are not successful in the catch. Continue to try. Sow the seed, play your part. The Lord Himself will water the seeds you sow. Whatever your part do it well! Learn how to be in the supporting cast.

Maintain Your Net:

A skilled fisherman maintains his net. As a Christian you must maintain your net by the Word of God. The more you read and study the word the stronger you will become in your faith.

It is important that you stay connected to people. When you are connected to God and people connect to you they receive what you have. Be gentle in sharing because people already know they need God they are just looking for someone to confirm it. Cast your net!