

FISH TALK

Pastor Mike

Sunday, December 10, 2017

Matthew 4:18-19 (NIV)

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

1 Peter 2:9-10 (MSG)

But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God's instruments to do his work and speak out for him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference he made for you—from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted.

1. Share the Hope We Have

1 Peter 3:15-16 (NIV)

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an 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 against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

Three things that are simple to always share with others:

- How I realized I needed Christ
- How I committed my life to Christ
- The difference it has made in my life

2. Share My Church

Luke 14:23 (LB)

Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that My house will be full. → This is a scripture filled with urgency!

#beabringer

Interesting facts:

- “82% of the unchurched are at least somewhat likely to attend church if invited.” –Dr. Thom Rainer, *The Unchurched Next Door*
- “Only 2% of church members invite an unchurched person to church. 98% of church-goers never extend an invitation in a given year.” –Dr. Thom Rainer, *The Unchurched Next Door*
- A study including more than 15,000 adults revealed that about two-thirds are willing to receive information about a local church from a family member and 56% from a friend or neighbor.
- “The message is clear that the unchurched are open to conversations about church.” –Philip Nation, LifeWay Research

So, what should we be doing?

- Pray for them.
- Show them you care.
- Invite them to join you at a service.

3. Share Christ

John 3:16 NIV

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

John 10:10 NIV

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

I'll say this: Here's three simple ways to look at the simplicity of the Gospel:

- There is a problem.
- There is a solution.
- There is a needed response.

The Problem

Romans 3:23 NIV ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23 NIV

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Solution

Romans 5:8 NKJV

God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

John 14:6 NIV

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Acts 4:12 NIV

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

The Response

John 1:12 NLT

But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.

Romans 10:9-10 NIV

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Revelation 3:20 NKJV

Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him.