

April 11, 2010
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Monday

Matt. 4:19 And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

No self-respecting fisher quits fishing just because he catches no fish. Come on now, you know that. Missing the fish on one trip just makes him want to go fishing again, when the weather is better or the water is clearer. Certainly no fisher ever quit fishing because he said, "There are just too many fish that won't take my bait." No fisher can catch them all. It's the vast number of uncaught fish that make the catch sure. Fishers are persistent. They enjoy going as much as catching. Determine to be determined. Persist until you are persistent. God calls — be a fisher of men.

Tuesday

Matt. 4:22 Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

There's the rod and the reel. Oops, probably need a couple of those at least. There's the boat, a motor, a troll motor, and the tackle. There's the license, the clothing, and the new grill. Oh, and it probably is going to cost you a new outfit or something, if you are missing anything important to go on the trip. In other words, fishing costs something. It costs in time, training, equipment, and energy. None of that is an insurmountable obstacle for a fisher. The price paid is worth the adventure, the experience, and the satisfaction. I'll not tell you becoming a fisher of men will not cost anything. I'll just tell you that it is worth it. Follow Jesus!

Wednesday

Matt. 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."

"How about we play a four on four game of basketball? Me and my friends against you and yours. You know, I am not very good at the game. What? Who are my friends? Let's see, it'll just be me and Larry Bird, Michael Jordan, and LeBron James." You get the point? It doesn't matter if I am any good. I've already won the game because of my team. When you share the gospel, it doesn't matter *if you are any good*. It's the team. You have partnered with the best, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. They will cover your back, so get in the game. Play hard knowing you have already won.

Thursday

1Pet. 2:9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Chosen! The word means a great deal. You are included not excluded. You are valued not disregarded. You are gifted, empowered, and partnered. Chosen! It makes a difference on the playground, a difference in the boardroom, and a holy difference in your Christian walk. I can think of no greater privilege than to be chosen of God, to be joined as a partner in His design. God plans to win the world and glorify Jesus partnering with you. He chose you. He values you. He is counting on you. Gifted! Empowered! Partnered with God! These all describe you.

Friday

Col. 3:2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

You do what is important to you. You set priorities, consciously or inadvertently, and you do that which you have made your priority. Sharing your faith needs to be a priority, consciously adopted, persistently pursued. You may not naturally be an outgoing evangelist type, but if you make sharing a priority and don't limit the means of sharing to 'confrontational' witness, you will find a way to share. God will help you do it, if you make it a priority. A tract placed in a lobby. A cake baked for a neighbor. A friendship intentionally made. Let the Holy Spirit lead.