

“The Call to Win Souls”

Matthew 4:18-22

Let's talk about Biblical authority:

- In the church:
 - Christ
 - Pastor/Leadership
 - Church members
- So is there authority over us, and over pastors from God?
 - God has authority over preachers/pastors, and leadership.
 - Does God have authority over Christians?
- How many of you have been called to be a “fisher of people?”
 - A time when God has impressed upon your heart to be burdened for souls... have a desire to see souls saved!

Here in Matthew 4:18-22 we see Jesus with a heart for souls and His desire for people to reach them...

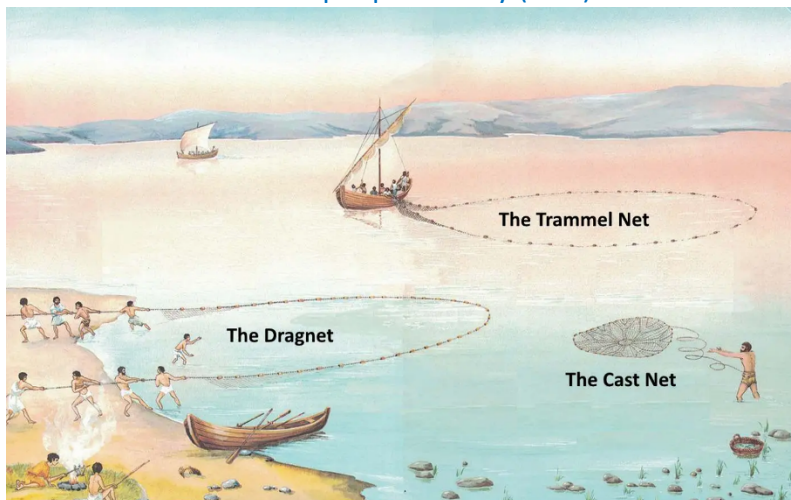
- What is your heart for souls?
- That “heart” for souls comes from the Lord!
- Our text shows Jesus heart
- And 2 important ingredients:
- 2 ingredients I want you to see that this passage shows us:

2 ingredients that this passage shows us:

I. Jesus's authority

A. When He calls people – Obey (v.18) fishermen:

The



B.

fisherman's prior relationship – this was not emotional, spur of the moment decision.

an

- C. Jesus' call includes training (19)
Not just to become fishers of men, but to make them to be fishers of men!

Qualities of a good fisherman: I was taught.

1. Patience – have to wait
2. Perseverance – going from place to place, back again
3. Good instinct – right place, right moment (when/where fish are biting)
4. Courage – like fishers on the Sea of Galilee, dealing with storms, mishaps

Fishing for souls:

We need to be ready and aware always of the need around us allowing the Lord to work on lives and bring the lost to us with 1,2,3,4. *[above]*

II. A burden for souls – rescuing souls was Jesus great concern.

- Matthew 23:37 Jesus wept over Jerusalem...
- Matthew 9:36-38
- Luke 19:10 – For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. And John 3:16.

Conclusion:

- Evangelism is, has always been, the heartbeat, burden of the evangelical church.
- John Knox: “Give me Scotland or I die.”
- John Wesley considered the whole world his parish.
- D.L Moody lived for winning souls. He used to tell the story, “Let the Lower Lights be Burning,” the hymn is based on that story. Song by: Philip P. Bliss who formed an association with Moody in 1869.

*Brightly beams our Father’s mercy, from His lighthouse evermore,
But to us He gives the keeping, of the lights along the shore.*

Refrain:

*Let the lower lights be burning! Send a gleam across the wave!
Some poor fainting, struggling seaman; You may rescue; you may save.*