

# Fish or Fishers of Men?



## Take card

1. Make a note of how long you have been in the Lord's Church
2. On opposite side, write down how many souls you have lead to Christ all these years

# Fish or Fishers of Men?



## Take Home

Having been saved through Christ and indwelt by the Godhead we did not merely turn over a new leaf, but were transformed

From Seeds to Trees,

From Kingdom of Darkness to Light,

From the Dead to Living,

From Children of Adam to Children of God.

**From Fish to Fishers of men!**

# A new birth is known by the changes produced similar to action of the wind

## John 3:5-6, 8

**5** Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. **6** That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. **8** The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."



# Fruit of the Spirit--Evidenced by indwelling Spirit

## Matthew 7:16-20

16By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. 19Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

## WHAT OTHER FRUIT?

# The fruit of a Christian is another Christian

## Romans 7:4

So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, **in order that we might bear fruit to God.**

## Mark 4:20

Others, like **seed sown on good soil**, hear the word, accept it, and **produce a crop--thirty, sixty or even a hundred times what was sown."**

# Come, follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men

## Matthew 4:18-19

"As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." "



# Follow me

## Matthew 10:38

And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me

## Matthew 16:24

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

# I will make you fishers of men

[John 15:5](#) I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

[Matthew 13:47,48](#) Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

## [Points to ponder](#)

Turn us from fish living in sea of sin to fishers

To make the saved ones saviors

To make the convert into a converter

To be His representatives on earth, pleading for Him

To raise spiritual corpses to life, like Elisha

# We are asked to deal with the dead ... to raise the spiritually dead

[2 Kings 4:29-37](#)

**31** Gehazi went on ahead and laid the staff on the boy's face, but there was no sound or response. So Gehazi went back to meet Elisha and told him, "The boy has not awakened."

**32** When Elisha reached the house, there was the boy lying dead on his couch. **33** He went in, shut the door on the two of them and prayed to the Lord. **34** Then he got on the bed and lay upon the boy, mouth to mouth, eyes to eyes, hands to hands. As he stretched himself out upon him, the boy's body grew warm.

**35** Elisha turned away and walked back and forth in the room and then got on the bed and stretched out upon him once more. The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes.

**36** Elisha summoned Gehazi and said, "Call the Shunammite." And he did. When she came, he said, "Take your son." **37** She came in, fell at his feet and bowed to the ground ...

# Because God is in the business of raising the dead

[Acts 26:8](#)

Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead?

# The Christian is no ordinary being, for we are indwelt by God to be vessels of transformation

[1 Cor 3:16](#) Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?

[1 Cor 6:19](#) Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;

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We are asked to do not what is possible to humans, but rather those impossibilities which only God can do through His Spirit in us ...

# Benefits: Wisdom connected with soul winning, shine like stars

## [Proverbs 11:30](#)

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.

## [Daniel 12:3](#)

Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.

## [James 4:19,20](#)

19My brothers, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back, 20remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins

## [Philemon 6](#)

I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.

# Warnings

Wheat and Tare: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Dragnet: Matthew 13:47,48

Nothing but leaves: Mark 11:12-14, 20-21

Nothing but leaves Luke 13:6-9

## Nothing but leaves Luke 13:6-9

**6**And He *began* telling this parable: “A man had a fig tree which had been planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and did not find any. **7**“And he said to the vineyard-keeper, ‘Behold, for three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree without finding any. Cut it down! Why does it even use up the ground?’ **8**“And he answered and said to him, ‘Let it alone, sir, for this year too, until I dig around it and put in fertilizer; **9**and if it bears fruit next year, *fine*; but if not, cut it down.’”

# **On that day what will the Lord Say?**

**May it not be said of the Lord's Church that**

**All we did was**

**Sang 20,000 songs**

**Listened to 10,000 sermons**

**Ate 20,000 Lords suppers**

**Prayed 40,000 prayers**

**May the Lord not find nothing but leaves**

# **On that day what will the Lord find?**

**The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.  
Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send  
out workers into His harvest [Matthew 9:37,38]**

**1. We can start with prayer, individually and as a  
congregation [Ephesians 6:18,19]**

**2. Use the Acts 1:8 model:**

**Start in our immediate surroundings-family,  
school, work, areas we frequently do business,  
Then local area around Glen Burnie  
State of Maryland, USA, and world**

# Do you have the new birth? Fish or Fisher

Acts 2:38: Peter said to them,

"Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; **and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

Rom 6:3-4: 3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, **we too may live a new life.**

