

Fishers of Men (I)

- I. Simon's Journey – a fisherman called to follow Jesus
 - A. "Simon, you shall be called Peter" (Jn. 1:42)
 - B. "I will make you become fishers of men" (Mk. 1:17)
- II. The Spirit Being Crucial (Luke 24:46-49; Acts 1:1-8)
 - A. Jesus appears to His disciples during a 40 day period (Ac. 1:3)
 - 1. After His resurrection and up to His ascension
 - 2. Presented Himself alive to His disciples
 - 3. Teaching His disciples about the kingdom of God
 - B. Jesus commissions His disciples (Lk. 24:46-48; Ac. 1:8)
 - 1. Repentance and forgiveness is to be proclaimed in Jesus' name
 - 2. Start in Jerusalem, then Judea & Samaria, then to the end of the earth
 - C. Jesus holds back His disciples (Lk. 24:49b; Ac. 1:4)
 - 1. The promise of the Father (Jn. 14:26; 15:26)
 - D. Jesus tells His disciples about the Spirit's operation (Ac. 1:5; Lk. 24:49b)
 - 1. Baptized with the Holy Spirit/Clothed with power
 - 2. To do God's work
- II. With the empowering of the Spirit, now we have fishers of men

Fishers of Men (II)

- I. Who will continue the work of God?
 - A. Who did Jesus put His trust in?
 - 1. The Holy Spirit (Jn. 14:26; 15:26; 16:7, 13; Ac. 1:5b, 8)
 - 2. His disciples (Matt. 28:19; Mk. 16:15; Lk. 24:47)
 - B. We have the evidence that the Spirit came through (Book of Acts & history)
- II. Fishers of men emerge with the Spirit's empowering
 - A. Spirit Baptized & Clothed with power (Ac. 2:1-6)
 - 1. Spirit is outpoured & enabled them (NIV) to speak in tongues & boldly, the "mighty works of God" (2:11b)
 - 2. Contrast: fifty days earlier – locked in a room afraid of Jews (Jn. 20:19)
 - B. Some Jews in Jerusalem were amazed, while others mocked (Ac. 2:12-13)
 - C. Peter speaks to explain and defend what was happening (Ac. 2:14-18)
 - D. Peter links Jesus' work with the Spirit's present work (Ac. 2:22-24; 32-33)
 - E. Casting the net at the right time (Ac. 2:37-38, 41) – fish gathered 3,000 added!
- III. Present day fishers of men empowered by the Spirit (Jn. 14:12)
 - A. Jesus still trusts the Spirit to do God's work through you
 - B. Do you trust the Spirit or do you disqualify yourself?
 - 1. **Personally:** God is ready to move through you.
 - 2. **Church:** God wants to move forward among us
 - C. Where the Spirit leads there will be progress and growth, gospel preaching and people gained for God, much repentance and many changed lives, selfless living and praising God, etc., etc.