



Catch And Release

Matthew 14:16: But Jesus said to them, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

LIFE GROUP / PERSONAL STUDY:

Jesus called his disciples to be fishers of people, modeling for them how to seek and save the lost, transforming the lives of those he touched as a result. As followers of Christ, we need to be living out what we believe. We were caught up into the family of God and now we are released into our environment to do ministry. It may put us out of our comfort zone, but it is in the doing that lives are changed. Bringing people to Jesus is what it's all about...so let's catch and release!

1A) PERSONAL: Think about your faith journey. What events led you to accept Jesus as your Savior? Who were the people that were involved in the process?

1B) PERSONAL: Do those you mentioned above realize their role in how they impacted your faith? Below, compose a thank you note to them for their part in bringing you to Jesus and consider reaching out to them with that message. If they have gone home to heaven, read it as a prayer of thanks.

Read John 1:43-50:

2A) What does Jesus say to Philip and what does Philip do?

2B) How does Nathaniel react?

2C) Record Philip's simple command.

2D) PERSONAL: Philip did not give up on Nathanael. How grateful Nathanael must have been to Philip for this. There are people out there that are dying to make sure you don't give up on them. Who is your Nathanael? Invite them to The Met with a simple “Come and see.”

Read Matthew 14:13-15:

3A) Jesus has just learned of the execution of his cousin, John the Baptist, and he needed to be alone. But crowds of people followed him. How does he respond?

3B) PERSONAL: What does this reaction say to you about the nature of Jesus?

3C) As evening approaches, what do the disciples want Jesus to do?

Read Matthew 14:16:

4A) Write out Jesus' reply. Circle who Jesus wants to feed the people.

4B) PERSONAL: Jesus could have said "I will feed them." Why do you think he said what he did?

5) PERSONAL: How would your life change if you woke up every day believing in Jesus' complete authority and you had absolute trust in him in every situation, circumstance and trial?

Read Matthew 14:17-21:

6) In your own words, describe the events that took place next.

7A) PERSONAL: What are some of your special qualities, gifts or talents? (Don't be humble! What are you good at?)

7B) PERSONAL: Brainstorm ways that you can bring these qualities into the life of our church and community in order to help those who don't know Christ. Is there a need you see that you can meet?

ACT: It has been said, "God doesn't call the equipped, he equips the called." We may not feel that we have what it takes to lead others to Christ, but ministry is seeing a need and meeting it. Keep your eyes open and think about what God might be trying to do in you and through you. Trust in Jesus and follow Him where He leads you.

Daily Devotional: It always helps to look at the context of the passage. Then try to answer the following questions about the passage. Who is involved? What is going on? Where is the action taking place? When? How can this concept apply to my life? Why is it important? Also look for Commands, Warnings, and Examples to follow or not to follow.

- Every day this week read about the call of Jesus for believers to witness to others so that lives can be changed.

Monday:

1 Peter 3:15 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.

Tuesday:

Romans 10:15 NLT

And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"

Wednesday:

Matthew 5:16 NIV

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Thursday:

Acts 1:8 NIV

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Friday:

Jeremiah 1:7-9 NIV

But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am too young.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the Lord. Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "I have put my words in your mouth.

Saturday:

John 3:17 ASV

For God sent not the Son into the world to judge the world; but that the world should be saved through him.

Sunday:

Mark 16:15 ESV

And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.



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