

# “Have You Been Fishing Lately?”

Matt. 4:19-22; Mark 1:16-20; Luke 5:1-11

## Introduction

- I. One of the most enjoyed outdoor recreational activities is that of fishing.
  - A. People spend lots of money, time and effort to go fishing.
  - B. To some, it is almost a “passion.”
- II. For Christians, “fishing” is supposed to be more than just recreation, it is supposed to be part of our “mission” on Earth (Luke 5:1-11; Mark 16:15).
  - A. Unfortunately, there does not seem to be the same interest and vigor toward spiritual “fishing” as there is to physical fishing.
  - B. That is extremely sad considering the difference in the two!

## Discussion

- I. When spiritually “fishing,” the “catch” is by far greater than that of physical fishing.
  - A. We love to tell of the big one that we caught (only happens every once in a while!)
    1. “Catching” a soul is always “a big one” (Matt. 16:26).
    2. It should excite us tremendously to “land” a soul for the Lord.
  - B. Sometimes, just like with physical fishing, one “gets away.”
    1. Not every soul will obey the Gospel (Acts 26:22-28).
    2. That should not hinder us in throwing out the “net” one more time (Luke 5).
    3. Who knows, but God, what multitude of souls will obey the next time we preach/teach the Gospel?
- II. Sometimes when fishing, we will catch things that are not our intention, but we don't stop fishing.
  - A. Whether it be boots, snakes, turtles or trash, most fishermen have their stories about such.
  - B. We will have moments when the “bad” will get mingled with the “good” (Matt. 13:47-50).
  - C. We should just keep “fishing” and let the angels and the Lord handle that (Matt. 13:24-30).

## Conclusion

- I. When was the last time that you went “spiritually fishing?”
- II. It should be more than just a recreational activity, but rather it should be our regular way of life.
- III. With just one “catch,” the fisherman is “hooked” on catching more!