Kingdom Expansion through Multiplication

Introduction

The Bible is the record of the creation of the world and the first man and woman, as detailed in Genesis 1.

After creating Adam and Eve, God's first command to them was to multiply physically and spiritually.

By doing so, they would fill the earth with people who knew God and walked in fellowship with Him.

However, sin interfered with this process, resulting in physical and spiritual death.

To save mankind from this terrible spiritual death, God sent Jesus Christ to die for the sins of all mankind.

Each individual must choose to accept God's plan of salvation by asking forgiveness for sin and accepting Jesus as Savior.

When you accept Jesus as Savior, you are "born again" and recreated spiritually as a new creature in Christ.

You are "new" because you no longer live in sin and practice the old sinful lifestyle.

As a "born-again" believer, you are called to multiply spiritually and fill the earth with others like yourself; people who love God and walk in fellowship with Him.

To meet the challenge of thousands of people who are dying in sin without the Gospel, each believer must become reproductive and learn the principles of spiritual multiplication.

Our teaching shares Biblical methods of spiritual reproduction which will enable you to multiply in obedience to God's command.

You will learn how to multiply spiritually as an individual and corporately within the context of the local church.

By applying the Biblical principles taught in our teaching, you can be responsible for the multiplication of thousands of trained and motivated believers.

Chapter 1

FISHERS OF MEN

KEY VERSE:

And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men. (Mark 1:17)

When Jesus Christ began His public ministry, He called several men to be His first disciples with the command to multiply spiritually.

Jesus promised that if they followed Him, He would make them "fishers of men" and they would reproduce as they "fished" spiritually for other men and women.

The last message of Jesus to His followers was a call to spiritual reproduction, and He revealed specific methods that would enable His disciples to multiply spiritually.

The first and most important method was given as part of the commission in Acts 1:8, where disciples would multiply through the enduement of power by the Holy Spirit.

Other methods were revealed as the followers of Jesus began to multiply and reach the world with the Gospel.

Our teaching explains these methods of multiplication and teaches you how to use them to reproduce spiritually and fulfill God's command.

To "multiply" means to increase in number by reproduction, and multiplication is the process of reproducing something over and over again in like form.

In the natural world, men and women reproduce physically by having children.

Similarly, spiritual multiplication is done by reproducing spiritually.

A believer reproduces by sharing the Gospel with others, leading them to become believers, and establishing them as disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Bible reveals God's methods for spiritual multiplication, which are plans for accomplishing a specific goal.

"Methodologies" are a system of methods that can be combined to reach a goal, and "multiplication methodologies" are methods that enable believers to reach the goal of spiritual reproduction.

There are many different methodologies by which this goal may be accomplished, and when man cooperates with God's multiplication methods, spiritual reproduction results. Believers reproduce spiritually within the womb of the Church.

THE CALL TO ACTION

The first disciples that Jesus called were fishermen, men of action who used big nets to catch fish in large quantities.

Jesus then called them to be "fishers of men," revealing a spiritual multiplication plan.

They were to "catch" people from all backgrounds and cultures using their spiritual "nets."

Jesus called his followers to action, making them fishers of men and not just spectators in God's plan.

As participants, they fished for the eternal souls of men and women.

Today, Jesus' call remains the same - we are to become fishers of men.

If we are not actively fishing for souls, we are not truly following Him.

FISHERS OF MEN

Why did Jesus use the example of fishing to call His followers?

The answer lies in the fact that it was an example they could easily understand.

These men were fishermen by trade, and it was the thing to which they devoted their time and energy.

When Jesus called them to become fishers of men, they immediately understood that they would "catch" men spiritually, just as they had caught fish in the natural world. They also comprehended the demands of this call, knowing that spiritual fishing would require a commitment of their time and energy.

Moreover, using the example of fishing was a wise choice because there are principles of natural fishing that can be applied spiritually.

Here are some of the valuable principles of natural fishing that can be applied to spiritual fishing:

YOU MUST GO WHERE THE FISH ARE:

To catch fish, you must go where they are.

That's how you'll find them.

Fish live in water, after all, not on a mountain or in a desert.

Similarly, as a believer, you must seek out where the spiritually lost are and share your faith with them.

The world is brimming with men and women who need to hear the message of hope.

You can't just wait for them to come to you in a church building.

You must go out into the world, into the marketplace, the schools, the offices, and wherever else unsaved people are found.

By doing so, you'll have the opportunity to cast your net and bring people closer to God.

YOU MUST ANALYZE THE ENVIRONMENT:

When fishing in the natural world, it's crucial to consider your environment.

You must carefully observe the current, depth, and saltiness of the water, as well as the direction and strength of the wind.

All these factors determine the type of bait and fishing methods you'll need to use.

Similarly, in the spiritual world, it's essential to analyze the environment in which you find people.

You must determine their needs and what's happening in their lives to effectively reach out to them.

Jesus demonstrated this principle when He met the woman at the well in John 4

He analyzed her situation and used her natural need for water to help her recognize her spiritual need.

By using this approach, Jesus "reeled her in" to the Kingdom of God.

Conversely, if you use trout fishing methods in saltwater, you'll never catch any trout because they live in freshwater.

Similarly, if you don't analyze the spiritual environment, you'll end up "fishing for trout in saltwater," unable to reach people effectively.

Therefore, it's essential to take the time to understand people's needs and tailor your approach accordingly.

With this approach, you'll be able to bring people to a deeper understanding of their relationship with God and help them explore the difference between religion and spirituality.

YOU SHOULD USE DIFFERENT METHODS:

A skilled fisherman knows that catching fish requires the use of a variety of methods.

From different types of bait to various fishing equipment, such as nets, fishing rods, spears, or baskets, the key to success lies in diversifying your approach.

After all, each kind of fish is attracted to different methods.

To become an effective spiritual fisherman, you must also use various methods to attract different people to the Gospel.

Some may respond to teaching and preaching, while others may need comfort during times of need.

The methods of spiritual fishing are diverse, but the ultimate goal remains the same: to catch the souls of men and women.

While some of these methods can be learned through books on the subject, many are best learned through experience and observation.

As a fisherman hones his skills and adapts to changing circumstances, so too must a spiritual fisherman remain open to trying new approaches in order to succeed.

Whether you use tried-and-true methods or experiment with new techniques, the key is to approach each opportunity with a willingness to learn and a steadfast dedication to your ultimate goal.

YOU MUST CAST OUT AND REEL IN:

In the natural world, casting a fishing rod, net, or spear requires precision and care.

It's crucial to cast your line or tool on target and properly handle your catch.

Similarly, casting the Word of God into the spiritual world has its own set of rules.

According to Isaiah 55:11, if we cast out the Word of God, it will not return void.

Instead, it will successfully fulfill its purpose in the hearts and lives of individuals.

By using the Word of God, you can rest assured that you'll always be on target.

Eventually, it will "catch" the hearts and minds of people, transforming their lives for the better.

TIMING IS IMPORTANT:

Did you know that the time of day and the seasons of the year can greatly impact your fishing experience in the natural world?

It's true!

Certain fish migrate and cannot be caught in specific regions during certain seasons.

Additionally, the biggest fish tend to come closer to the surface early in the day for feeding, making it the prime time for catching them.

Similarly, timing plays a crucial role in spiritual fishing.

In our teachings, we emphasize the importance of fishing in the receptive areas of the world when the fish are spiritually "biting."

Stay tuned to discover more about how to effectively and strategically fish in the spiritual realm.

Remember, fishing in the wrong season or at the wrong time can result in a poor catch, so timing is everything in both natural and spiritual fishing.

YOU MUST BE PATIENT:

Fishing in the natural world requires a great deal of patience.

A fisherman must wait for the fish to take the bait or swim into the net.

In the same way, patience is essential in the spiritual world.

As stated in James 5:7, "Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receives the early and latter rain."

Just like a farmer waits for the fruits of his labor to grow, we too must have patience and trust in the Lord's timing.

Therefore, let us be patient and wait for God's blessings to come our way.

SPIRITUAL REPRODUCTION

Fishing in the natural world may result in multiplication of fish, but fishing in the spiritual world results in the multiplication of men and women in the Kingdom of God.

While natural reproduction results in the multiplication of living people, spiritual reproduction results in the multiplication of spiritual people.

It is important to note that spiritual reproduction does not come from programs or promotions of man, but rather through the spiritual life flow of God.

The process of spiritual reproduction is similar to that of natural reproduction.

Just as a single cell of life in a woman's womb multiplies until a complete body is formed and a new baby is born, spiritual growth begins with the life flow of God in one man or woman and multiplies in the spiritual "womb" of the Church.

In the upcoming teaching on "The Day Of Small Things," you will have the opportunity to learn more about how spiritual reproduction begins.

Remember, it is through the spiritual life flow of God that we can experience true multiplication in the Kingdom of God.