

South Gate Church of Christ

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Joe Macer - Speaker

Informer



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Is your line in the water? Part II

Last week I mention making sure to have your line in the water. During our Revival we spread a wide net trying to give as many different people the chance to hear the gospel, but other times our efforts will need to be more specific. This involves choosing individuals by name you want to reach out to with the gospel. Just like fishing for a specific type of fish involves figuring out what works in catching that type, for this method to have the best chance of success one must focus specifically on the individual they want to catch. You will have to study the person and try to identify their needs. You will have to talk about spiritual things with this person in order to see what they know and don't know about God. Daily prayer about the individual will lead to an enhanced awareness of opportunities, and a greater desire to speak a word to them when the opportunity comes. Dedicated love, compassion, perseverance, and prayer specific to the person you want to reach will be needed. This work can take a great investment of time and energy, but there is no greater work than trying to help change eternity by helping someone come to accept the mercy and grace of our loving Lord. When you are successful in bringing someone, you have specifically focused on to the Lord it is a wonderful experience.

So, I ask you once again, "Is your line in the water?" As a part of this congregation are you spreading the seed of the kingdom in such a way that as many as possible have a chance to hear the word of God? As Christians are you also looking for specific individuals on a regular basis with the desire to share with them the gospel in a way that can change their life? If you are, then South Gate will have many lines in the water trusting our God to bring about His desired results. See you Sunday!

John

Jesus Was A Teacher

Matthew 5:1-2 *Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying:*

Jesus was a teacher. During his ministry, he taught his disciples each and every day. He was especially known for his parables. The parable was not just an illustration or a feel good story but it was delivering a message. The parables were intended to raise questions and to motivate learning. On some occasions, his disciples would ask for an explanation due to their lack of understanding. He would then patiently give the meaning. Jesus wasted no time to help these men understand the message they were to deliver once he was gone.

Jesus taught those that he would encounter only once during his lifetime as well. The Scriptures above were the introduction to the sermon on the mount. So many subjects were touched in this lesson. He gave the beatitudes, talked about their influence, discussed murder, adultery, divorce, oaths, loving your enemies as well as many other concepts. At the conclusion of the sermon, Matthew recorded that the crowds were amazed at his teaching. Jesus was so different than those around who were spiritual teachers. His authority was recognized to be superior to those whose vocation was teaching. As you read the gospels, examine how Jesus taught both the individuals and the crowds. He truly was a master teacher that we should still learn from today.

Joe

