CHOOSING A CHRISTIAN CAREER SERIES

CCC 101 THE DIVINE PURPOSE Mark 1:17

- Mark 1:17, "Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men."
- Four truths to help us understand to accept God's divine purpose, and labor faithfully in our Christian career field.

I DIVINE SERVICE
- Jesus came for this purpose - Luke 19:10
- Jesus chooses people for this purpose - Mark 1:16-20
- Jesus commissions us for this purpose - Acts 1:8

1. Rebellion is able to operate when we view the call to witness as coming from a human agent.
2. Viewing it as a matter where you have a right to decide not to.
3. This view deceptively gives room for a Christian to refuse without any concept of consequence.
4. This false view enables a Christian himself determine what he thinks is sufficient christianity.
   - The flesh will always lead to the "easiest" and "least costly" and "least interference" in their planned life.

II DEFINITE SERVICE
1. Call of God upon all Christians is to "catch" human beings.- Mark 1:17
2. Various titles given Christians support this truth.
   - Acts 1:8 - "Witnesses" II Cor. 5:20 - "Ambassadors" I Tim. 2:7 - "Heralds"
3. Nothing short of this is obedience to a living God's words. Not to, is disobedience making yourself "god".

III DIFFICULT SERVICE
1. Power of sin controls the mind so greatly.
2. The self-will of people is so greatly perverted.
3. Satan does not easily let go the ones he has ensnared and doomed with himself.
4. Most intense opposition is used against individuals and ministers who accept God's glorious call-"winning lost to Jesus".

IV DELIGHTFUL SERVICE
- Once commitment is made and followed through.

1. Self interest is no longer the dominating factor in your life, but Christ.
2. See the great personal and family changes.
3. See that people are hungry, interested and willing to accept God's Word.
4. Know you had a definite part in the greatest miracle-"being born again."
5. Knowing you have pleased God by your service in growth of His Kingdom.

ARE YOU WILLING TO SETTLE THE ISSUE ONCE AND FOR ALL??

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CCC 102 THE DIVINE PLAN Mark 1:16-20

Mark 1:16-20, "Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men"

1. "To become" clearly tells us that fishers of men (people) are not born, but made.
2. "To become" definitely implies a procession of progress.
3. "To become" indicates a not being now what will be and should be.

I FISHERS NEED WATCHFULNESS
1. Mark the alertness: always on the look out for fish and for best ways to catch them.
2. Mark the eagerness: caused primarily by recognition of feelings catching produces and prospect of eating.

II FISHERS NEED PATIENCE
1. Demonstrated by remaining hour after hour on fishing bank waiting for a bite.
2. Impossible to be successful without this strong characteristic.
3. Patience pays:
   - II Tim. 4:2, "Instant in season, out of season"
   - II Tim. 2:24, "Servant of the Lord must be...patient"

III FISHERS NEED COURAGE
1. To pay the price to properly prepare through:
   a. prayer for compassion
   b. diligence to study
   c. acquiring strength to continue

IV FISHERS NEED TACTFULNESS
1. Character of type of fish requires a change in bait.
2. Location and circumstances demand variations.
3. Is elusive to escape becoming Christian.

V FISHERS NEED A STRONG DESIRE (or love) TO BE PERSISTENT AND COMMITTED TO GOD'S CALL AND PLAN
1. Proverbs 11:30, "He that is wise winneth souls"
2. I John 5:14-15, "And this is the confidence that we have in Him,that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us; and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him."

Closing thought to think upon:
Is there any way I can absolve or clear myself of this responsibility?
- Obedience or rebellion are my alternatives.
- What am I going to do?
- What are the possible results (consequences) of my decision?

CHOOSING A CHRISTIAN CAREER SERIES

CCC 103--THE DIVINE POWER Mark 1:16-20

- Mark 1:17, "Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men."

I THE POWER TO WIN PEOPLE TO JESUS IS POSSIBLE BECAUSE IT IS DIVINE.
1. Jesus gives to us, as He did to His disciples, His Word or promise "I WILL make you..."
2. To become fishers of men is out of our ability and power - praise God not His.
3. All service He requires He will empower and enable his children to do.
4. Not dependent ypon our skills and ability to share, even thought we must, but His eternal power.

II THE POWER TO WIN PEOPLE TO JESUS IS POSSIBLE BECAUSE IT IS THE WILL OF GOD.
1. Jesus Himself set the example.
2. Jesus Himself charged and commissioned us to do the same.
3. Jesus Himself supports this will in His prayer instructions.
   I John 5:14, "And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us."
   I John 5:15, "And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him."

III THE POWER OF WIN PEOPLE TO JESUS IS CERTAIN BECAUSE OF JESUS WORDS - "I WILL MAKE YOU" - create within you.
1. Enlarge your heart so you can care and desire.
2. Encourage you to prepare and train.
3. Enable you to be persistent to His work.
4. Empower you to do - Phil. 4:13,"I can do all things through Christ Jesus."

IV THE POWER TO WIN PEOPLE TO JESUS BRINGS BLESSINGS
1. To us as servants and workers.
2. To those we influence to receive Jesus.
3. To God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
4. To our families.
5. To our local church.

CHOOSING A CHRISTIAN CAREER

CCC 104 THE DIVINE CONDITIONS Mark 1:17-20

1. 1:17, "Come ye after me..."
2. 1:18, "Forsook their nets..."
3. 1:18, "Followed Him"
4. 1:20, "went after Him"

Luke 19:10, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."
Mark 1:17, "I will make you to become fishers of men."
Acts 1:8, "Ye shall be witnesses unto me."

I BELIEVE HIM: "Come ye after me" - 1:17

1. Join me in my mission.
2. Participate in my call.
3. Him and His work cannot be separated.
4. As eternal as He is, so is His work.

II "FORSOOK THEIR NETS" - 1:18

1. To yield up your ways & work.
2. Give preference to His call.
3. Send from one's self.
4. Once and for all action.
5. Complete break from former life of not doing His will.
6. Permanent separation.
7. Not seasonal then return to old ways.

III FOLLOW HIM: 1:18

1. To walk the same road.
2. A side by side walking.
3. Joint participation.
4. Comform wholly to His example.
5. Imitate His pattern and purpose.
6. Cleave steadfast unto.
7. Unwavering allegiance.

IV OBEY HIM: "Went after Him" - 1:20

1. Believing, forsaking and following is obedience.
   John 2:5, "Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it."
2. Proof of relationship is action, not just words.
   John 14:12, "The things that I do, shall you do also."
3. Other areas of obedience cannot be substituted for witnessing for Jesus.
   - Obedience to one is not obedience to another.
4. Godhas not given us the right to pick and choose - but do His Word.
5. Disobedience has its negative consequences as obedience does its positive.
6. Yesterdays faithfulness cannot be used as todays.
   - example: air breathed yesterday