



## *Huh, Being Before Fishing ..Before Any Serving?*

*Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. —Jesus, Matthew 11:28*

Results, results, results.. gotta see the results! The proof is in the pudding. No time to waste—we've got to see the positive results of your labor! Think bottom-line dude. Meet your quotas or you're out. More numbers! Work it and then you can approach. NOT!

Hey Buckeroo, ever seen a tree straining to produce?

How 'bout a fisherman out at the lake?

Not so much?

With this in mind, how do ya personally feel when people bring up the subject of personal evangelism? *"Oh man, Martha, I'm sure the pastor wants more service from me now out there in the neighborhood, but I've been working like a dog at my job. How can I ever satisfy God.. and him?"*

I believe that Christians tend to think of "fishing for men" only in terms of action these days ..maybe because when people go fishing for fish it's supposed to be about doing something. But being the kind of fisher that God wants to make every believer into is much more than that.

Fact: Fishing for souls is not merely something you do, but it's much more about something you are.. in Christ. It's a lifestyle of agape-connection.

If a Christian is abiding in the Vine the way they were intended to, they also won't be able to keep from having a strong magnetism if you will. The fruit of the Spirit, the winsome love of God, that inner saltiness—it really seems to draw people in any nation. Christian, you have what everyone is hungry for (even if they don't realize it..)—you have the ultimate Solution no matter the question!

Fact: Many unbelievers will be attracted to who you are more than to what you do ..sure they will, unless you're giving out a million dollars on the street corner but that can't save anyone.

And remember, when Christians shine it is really God's fault. Yeah, they obey Him and He blesses their ministries simple as that, but He alone is to get the credit. Just like the sun is the reason for a bright moon at night. Duh!

In different places where I've been privileged to serve as a church elder, I've seen how many church pastors are uber-motivated to see results—monetary ones.

Nothing wrong with wanting to see results, but all leaders should desire to see the results of wholesome spiritual growth in people more than other results. Yes some results are more





