

Go Fish

Fishing. Almost every one of us has gone fishing or has seen someone fishing. “Fishing is the sport or business of catching fish” according to Oxford Languages Online Dictionary. And according to Google, “More than 44 million Americans enjoy fishing every year.”

Interestingly, the Bible has much to say about fishing. Fishing was a common trade in Bible times. At least 7 of the disciples were fisherman. Andrew and Peter were fishing when Jesus called them to be His disciples, and James and John were preparing their nets with their father when Jesus approached them (Matthew 4:18-22). Jesus said to them, “*Come follow me, and I will send you out to fish for people.*” At once they left their nets, boats, and family, and followed Jesus. They went. They left fishing as they knew it to go fish with Jesus. They began their ministry of sharing the good news of Jesus with people. Whether you are fishing for fish, or fishing for people you have to go where the fish are. Ponds, lakes, and rivers will give you access to catfish, bass, or bluegill. You gain access to people through your job, your school, or your neighborhood. When you share the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ, you are fishing with Jesus. We here at The Center are blessed to be able to share that news with our athletes through our different sports programs. We currently have 449 kids in our soccer program and 180 kids are participating in our fall baseball. We are thankful for the opportunity to go fish.

Fishing for fish requires some equipment. A fishing pole and some bait will be useful. Depending on where you are fishing and what type of fish you are fishing for, other equipment may also be necessary.

Fishing for people requires a few things too. Be sure to pray and ask the Lord whom He has for you to share the good news of Jesus with. And as Ephesians 4:32 reminds us: Be kind, compassionate, and forgiving.

Most fishermen will almost always have a good story to tell about one of their fishing trips or adventures. The Bible has 2 miraculous stories about fishing trips. You will find them in John 21: 1-14 and Luke 5:1-11.

Remember that since the Lord is with us always, and wherever we go (Joshua 1:9), you can be sure that He will go fishing with you, regardless of what you are fishing for. So...go fish.

God bless,

The Christian Center Staff