

Week 4:

Letting Go of Our Old Nets for New

Weekly Prayer:

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts: for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Weekly Questions:

Change is challenging. Deep change in our lives takes time. The change Jesus asks of us when he invites us to become fishers of people may seem to be a simple shift. We are just changing a bit, casting nets for people instead of fish...and now the reality of that change begins to sink in. Old skills need to evolve. New worlds lie before us that need to be explored. We are beyond our comfort zone, if we are to exchange old nets for new. How is God changing you in this season? What old nets are you letting go of in order to take hold of the new?

Daily Challenge

- Take 20 minutes a day of your day to sit quietly, allowing your mind, body and soul to relax while inviting Christ to come alongside you as you make your way through the coming day. Read the Daily Scripture and take at least 5 minutes with each day's question
- Review your personal prayer list. Add any names that have come up in the past week that come to mind. If you decide to remove any names (and that is ok!), then pause and commend them to God's care as you refocus your intercessions on others
- Include in your prayers a sincere request of God to take you, shape you and change you to a renewed purpose of fishing for people
- When you have the time, at the opening of your day and as you are able, pray Morning Prayer (with others as you are able)

Daily Scripture

- Sunday's Scripture:
 - Ephesians 2: 1-10
 - Your Question: Birth and Death are the two greatest changes in our lives. There are also lesser births and deaths we experience as our lives change. God is with us, in Christ, in all the births and deaths of our lives. What lesser death has God seen you through in your recent past? What lesser birth has God given you in your recent past?
- Monday's Scripture:
 - Mark 7: 24-37
 - Your Question: Change is sometimes welcome. Sometimes it is not welcome. How have you embraced unwelcome changes in attitude in your life?
- Tuesday's Scripture:

- John 5: 1-18
- Your Question: Jesus heals a paralytic man. Healing often brings dramatic changes into our lives. When has healing meant great change for you?
- Wednesday's Scripture:
 - Micah 7: 7-9
 - Your Question: Sometimes, the change we embrace is opposed by others in our lives. When has that been true of you?
- Thursday's Scripture:
 - Mark 8 27-9:1
 - Your Question: When you change, and become a fisher of people, then people will begin to talk about you. Who will people say that you are?
- Friday's Scripture:
 - I Corinthians 12: 27-13:3
 - Your Question: Change can feel isolating, and you may feel cut off from the very communities you celebrate. Can you remember and give thanks for the many members of the body of which you are yourself a member? Can you pause and dwell in the knowledge that can never be isolated, truly, in Christ when other followers of Jesus are nearby?
- Saturday's Scripture:
 - Psalm 7: 6-11
 - Your Question: How has God been your shield and your defense amidst the changes and chances of your life?

The Weekly Gathering:

Collect for IV Lent:

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Gospel:

John 3:14-21

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

- Open your gathering with the appropriate Daily Office for the hour of the day
- Hold silent prayer for 3-5 minutes

- One person reads the Collect for the Week, and then all pause to reflect on the prayer (2-3 minutes)
- Another person reads the lesson for the evening
- After a short period of quiet meditation (3-5 minutes), all recite the Lord's Prayer and then discuss:
 - Share the story of how you came to be a follower of Jesus. Is it different than the story of how you first came to believe in Him? Are you still trying to figure out what it means to follow Jesus, or to believe in Him? What is missing that holds you back from embracing that change in your life? How might you help others to deal with the challenge of those changes in their lives?
- Close your time together with the next Daily Office liturgy

