

*Hello! This is Dorothy -*

What does it take for a believer to become a fisher of men? In **Mark chapter 1**, we read -

**14 . . . Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the good news (the Gospel) of the kingdom of God,**

**15 And saying The [appointed period of] time is fulfilled (completed), and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent (have a change of mind which issues in regret for past sins and in a change of conduct for the better) and believe (trust in, rely on, and adhere to) the good news (the Gospel).**

**16 And passing along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon (Peter) and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net [to and fro] in the sea, for they were fishermen.**

**17 And Jesus said to them, Come after Me and be My disciples, and I will make you to become fishers of men.**

**18 And at once they left their nets and [yielding up all claim to them] followed [with] Him [joining Him as disciples . . .**

Peter of old experienced the call of the Lord Jesus Christ and was willing to leave all to follow Him. Whether or not we are professional fishermen like they were, let's just consider what it means to be a fisherman. Let's apply to our lives those qualities shown in His Word. There are seven of them.

First of all, we need to be *unobserved*. If we are in the center, how can we catch fish? They are going to swim away. In **1 Corinthians 15:10**, we read — **But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, - you see, it is not my working - but the grace of God which was with me. He was doing the work.**

And then, it is necessary to be a fisherman that I have *courage*. You know, fishing can be a very, very dangerous work. We read in **2 Timothy 4:5** — **But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.**

And then , there is the need to be *persistent*; always available through the indwelling Lord Jesus Christ, Who is my very life. His activity will be impressed upon my heart. He will supply the necessary energy and means to see His work accomplished through me. **2 Timothy 4:2** — **Preach the word; -that is the most important calling - be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.** That is the work that we are called to, with persistence in the handling of the Word of God.

Be *watchful*. That means *constantly alert*. **Acts 20:24** — . . .  
**.neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish  
my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of  
the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.**

**Hebrews 13:17 - Obey them that have the rule over you, and  
submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that  
must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with  
grief: for that is unprofitable for you.** *Be watchful.* Be sure you  
are under the ministry of somebody that handles the Word of God  
as the Word of God, with full priority: it is the Word of God.

Then you *submit and be patient*. **Luke 8:15** — . . . **bring forth  
fruit with patience.** The seed sown takes time to yield forth fruit.  
Persistently obey what the Lord in His Word has told you. Keep  
sowing the seed! Keep sowing the seed, believing it is going to **bring  
forth fruit**. What brings forth fruit? Why, it is the Word of God.  
We are, each one, committed before God as being part of the total  
plan that through us there should be the reproduction of spiritual  
life. This is for every believer. Therefore, in sowing of the seed, by  
faith we believe that that is going to bring forth fruit. We pray for it;  
we water it; and we look for that fruit for the glory of Jesus.

And be *tactful*. **2 Timothy 2:23** — **But foolish and unlearned  
questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.** Don't get

off on things which are away from what the Spirit of the Lord would have for one who is truly a fisher of men.

And be *wise*. **Proverbs 11:30 -The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; he that winneth souls is wise.** You know, it has been well said: a worker who is winsome will surely win some.

Now then, for a fisherman, it is not a sign of seeing you; but to be courageous; persistent; watchful; patient; tactful and wise that souls be saved. Fisher of men to the glory of Jesus.

*Amen.*