



People God Uses



## Why Don't You Do Something

Last week we talked about Satan wants to...

...Steal Our Identity

- Too Many have Succumbed to a Shallow Christian Life
- Some think they need a...
   ...Phone Booth / SC on
   Chest

...to be Used by God



### Remember Who You Are

**Identity = Four Questions:** 

O Who Am I?

Owhere Did I Come From?

• Where Am I Going?

O Why Am I Here?



### Remember Who You Are

- I Am a Child of the King
- I Came from God
- I Am Going Back to God
- Along the Way...

...I Am Going to

...Make a Difference



## Calling All Christians!

God needs Boots on the ground! Satan desires to stop this from happening

...creates a Spiritual Identity Crisis

Time to Rise up!

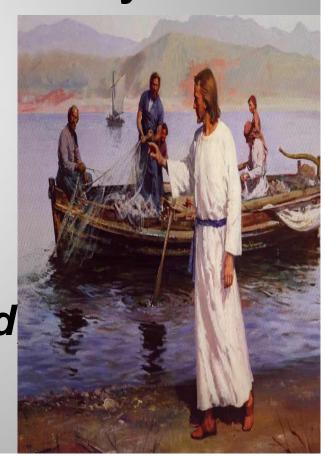


# What Kind of People Does God Use?

If there was ever a person who could be voted most unlikely to be Used by God

It was a...

- Brawny
- o Boistrous
- o Impulsive
- Fisherman (common man)
   ...Known as Simon (reed



### Jesus Sees Our Potential

- 1st-Name Change-John 1:40-42
- Simon "a reed"
  - Blown by the Winds of Public Opinion
  - Shaken in his beliefs by Pressure of Others

But Jesus Saw Something More, He called him

Peter "a rock" one who would be...
 ...strong / steadfast in his loyalty to Jesus
 ... and his commitment to the call of God

His journey with Jesus was One of Being Transformed from a Reed to a Rock

### **God Uses Ordinary People**

- a Fisherman, a common man -Acts 4:13
- Jesus was known as Rabbi.
- Parents would Save Up + Seek a Rabbi

#### Not So with Jesus.

- He Sought Out His Followers
- He was No Respecter of Persons
- He told the Pharisees- "The tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you" Matt 21:31

## God Uses Ordinary People

Here Are Three Great Lessons: Jesus Initiates the Search.

God is Searching for Us - Luke 19:10
 Jesus Loves Us Just Like We Are.
 Jesus Takes What We Have...
 ...and Uses It For His Glory

He Doesn't Change Our Personality But...
...Uses It

### F.A.T.

#### God Uses F.A.T. People

#### **o**Faithful

**Heb 10:38,** the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

#### **OAvailable**

**Isa 6:8,** I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, / who will go for us? ..! said, Here am I; send me.

#### **○Teachable**

**Prov 16:18**, Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

# God Uses Persevering People

#### Perseverance is a Greater than Ability

- Peter was tired.
- They had fished all night and had caught nothing.
- The effort failed, but he was willing to go back out and try again.

Fishermen are a Patient and Persevering A good fisherman always goes back into the same waters that discouraged him and tries again.

### God Uses Obedient People

One of the Greatest Faith Statements in the Bible "Nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net" Luke 5:5

• If there is <u>One Word</u> you put in your Vocabulary <u>Nevertheless</u> "in spite of doubt, discouragement, disillusionment, failures of others, personal setbacks, personal failure, I will let down the net"

**Nevertheless= No Excuses** 

### God Uses Humble People

#### Humility "to recognize your need of God"

"Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!"
 (8)

#### A Mark Of All God's Servants

- Abraham -"I am nothing but dust and ashes" Gen 18:27
- Jacob -"I am less than the least of all Your mercies"
   Gen 32:10
- Job "I repent and abhor myself" -Job 42:6
- Isaiah "Woe is me" –Isa 6:5
- Paul "I am the chief of sinners and the least of the apostles" -I Cor 15:9

### God Uses Humble People

Humility "to recognize your need of God."

- Humility before God transforms us into servants
- We Relinquish our Desire to Rule Over Others,
   to

Control, Dominate, Intimidate, Exercise



# God Uses Visionary People

**Christ Gives Peter a Vision...** 

- What He Can Be
- What He Could Do for the Kingdom of God:
- Do not be afraid; you will catch men -Luke 5:
   10
- Vision inspires Loyalty.



# He Did Something!

- That day on the shoreline of Galilee, Peter caught a glimpse of the man he could be in Christ. And it came to pass.
- He Changed His Priority, Focus and Devotion
   He Launched Out into the Deep
   For the Rest of His Life!

