



WORD BREAK

042 – REPAIRING THE RESERVOIR (Part4)

Dear Child of God,



Welcome to “WORD BREAK” #42, which is designed to give you a nugget from God’s Word to strengthen your daily walk.

GATE #2 – THE FISH GATE (Winning the Lost)

Nehemiah 3:3 tells us this.

“3 The Fish Gate was built by the sons of Hassenaah. They laid the beams, set up its doors, and installed its bolts and bars.” (NLT)

The Sheep Gate must be repaired before **The Fish Gate**. It takes healthy Christians to reach those who are lost, since fish represent souls. I believe with all my heart, God is restoring to the Church a burning passion for lost souls.

It is very interesting that a number of Jesus’ chosen disciples were fishermen. Whether you like to fish or not, knowledge of some basic facts about fishing is priceless when it comes to winning people to Christ.

Let’s take a look at these verses.

Matthew 4:18-22

*“18 One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—**Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—**throwing a net into the water, **for they fished for a living.** 19 **Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!”** 20 **And they left their nets at once and followed him.***

*21 A little farther up the shore he saw two other brothers, **James and John,** sitting in a boat with their father, **Zebedee,** repairing their nets. **And he called them to come, too.** 22 **They immediately followed him, leaving the boat and their father behind.” (NLT)***

These men were already more prepared for soul winning than many Christians, because they were trained professional fishermen.

Jesus chose fishing with a hook as the method for Peter to retrieve the money to pay both Peter and Jesus’ taxes. Jesus literally created that money in the fish’s mouth.

Matthew 17:27 says this.

*“27 **But so we don’t upset them needlessly, go down to the lake, cast a hook, and pull in the first fish that bites. Open its mouth and you’ll find a coin. Take it and give it to the tax men. It will be enough for both of us.” (THE MESSAGE)***

On yet another occasion, seven of Jesus’ disciples went fishing.

John 21:1-3a says,

*“1 Later, Jesus appeared again to the disciples beside the Sea of Galilee. This is how it happened. 2 Several of the disciples were there—**Simon Peter, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), * Nathanael** from Cana in Galilee, **the sons of Zebedee,** and **two other disciples.** 3 **Simon Peter said, “I’m going fishing.” “We’ll come, too,” they all said. So they went out in the boat,” (NLT)***

According to “**THE DORLING KINDERSLEY ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FISHING**”, there are over 200 freshwater and marine species of fish. There are particular instructions one must follow to find where in the world each species exist, what bait is to be used to catch them, what technique is to be used to lure them in, and what is the proper season to catch each species of fish.

It would certainly take too long to look at all 200 plus species of fish, so let’s look at a few examples.

My youngest son Joshua caught this over 6 foot Sturgeon by himself in the Fraser River in British Columbia on July 30, 2006. We live on over 31 acres in Yoakum, Texas. There are no Sturgeon in Texas; Joshua and I had to travel a long distance to get to where the sturgeon were. We also had to use a bait that would attract this pre-historic fish called a sturgeon. It cost us something to catch a fish we had never caught before.



JOSHUA CAUGHT THIS STURGEON ON JULY 30, 2006

It takes effort to fish for people, it takes effort to catch all the different kinds of people in this world.

We are commanded to go into all this world and preach “The Gospel”.

Look at Matthew 28:18-20.

*“18 **And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.** 19 **“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Holy Spirit,** 20 **teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.** ” (NASB)*

This is not “**The Great Option.**”

It is “**The Great Commission!**”

The Lord wants **The Fish Gate** completely repaired.

We will continue dealing with the repair of this gate next time.

Thank you for joining me for this edition of “WORD BREAK”. See you this Sunday!

Pastor Darrell McManus

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