

## **AUTHENTIC VERSUS ARTIFICIAL OUTREACH**

Introduction – There is a significant difference between authentic and artificial evangelism. Artificial outreach is programmed and man-centered while authentic outreach is God-centered and natural.

Matthew 4:18-22

- A. Four differences between net fishing and angling that mirror authentic and artificial outreach.
  - 1. Net fishing is a natural way to fish, while angling depends on technique and lures to succeed: Friendship Evangelism.
  - 2. Net fishing is a way of life, while angling is usually done for sport: Lifestyle Evangelism.
  - 3. Net fishing is usually a team effort, while angling is an individual endeavor: Body Life Evangelism.
  - 4. Net fishing is concerned with keeping the fish, while angling is more concerned with the catch: Discipling Evangelism.
- B. God calls and equips us to reach out by making us fishers of men.
  - 1. The call is to come follow Jesus.
  - 2. Jesus prepares us to be sent out to fish for men.
  - 3. We must be willing to leave whatever would interfere with the mission of God for us.
  - 4. There is an urgency to our call to seek and save the lost.
- C. Jesus models the mission.

Matthew 4:23-25

- 1. Teaching in a religious context
- 2. Proclaiming the good news of God's kingdom everywhere
- 3. Participating in the healing ministry of Jesus through humble service

Conclusion – We need to rethink how we reach out in the context of our culture. The one constant is that we must depend on the power of the Holy Spirit to fulfill our mission.

Acts 1:8