

Are you fit to be called a disciple? Is any of us worthy to be a disciple of Christ? I know many of you can answer that question on your own because of course the answer is a big “YES”. It's amazing to see how Paul in the second reading speaks to the people of Corinth and says “For I am the least of the Apostles not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the Grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me has not been ineffective. Indeed, I have toiled harder than all of them; not I, however but the Grace of God that is with me.” (1 Corinthians 15: 9-10)

This passage describes the outcry of Paul, a man who despised Christians, even put Christians to death, but besides all of that Evil Christ converted his heart to love him. But how? By Opening his eyes with great humility and love, but yet still felt unworthy to be called his apostle. So my question is who are we? Are you the one who would say to Christ if he was standing right in front of you “Here I am Lord”, I come preaching and believing in your word with pure love. Because through the conversion of saint Paul’s heart we see a transformation, noticing in his past life he admitted to persecuting the church of God. But God excepted him for what person he could be. And that’s why each of us has a transformation.

And in the Gospel, we see his disciples out in the sea trying to catch fish where they spent hours and caught nothing. But Jesus tells them to cast their nets out again. And when they did their nets became full. And this scene in the gospel speaks a lot because in order to be a disciple, I want you to think of this in two ways. First, (You have to be caught), and a second way of thinking (what are you trying to catch.) Well Christ caught each of us in his own net. He catches many for the conversion of hearts to fill his net. And when many hearts are converted to his heart, we become disciples where we take his net and turn it in to our own net but that net is always found in his name. And that is why Paul says we need to preach his word and believe because it’s by Christ's word we transform our hearts and the hearts of others whom we encounter in his name.

This story "the catch of fish along the lake of Gennesaret" indicates the attraction and the force of the Word of Jesus. Christ is seen attracting people by his words, and deeds. The word of Jesus is so strong that it overcomes Peter and convinces Peter to cast the nets into the sea again and there we see a miraculous catch. It overcomes in him and attracts him to become a “fisher of men”. This is the way the Word of God acts in us, even now. Because before God we are all sinners. But he catches us to be his fishermen.

So let me go back to that first question are you fit to be called a Disciple. You are fit to be a disciple of God but first we have to be caught by his word by living it out in our lives, and then bring it in the hearts of others. Just like Christ did. Because just like the transformation of Paul’s heart to the conversion of Christ, Christ calls us all to be his Fishermen to tend his nets which are thrown into the sea and bring all those that are caught from the depths of darkness of the sea and bring them to light.

Truly yours in Christ,
Father Kyle Adamczyk