

# YOU 3.0

## How to Overcome Fear in Witnessing

Paraproisdokian

*Scripture: Luke 5:1-12*

*“Don’t be afraid! From now on you’ll be fishing for people!”*

### Three Things I Know About Peter

- Jesus was responsible for the success of the catch.
  - Peter was responsible to fish.
- Jesus was the miracle worker.
  - Peter felt inadequate.
- Jesus offered Peter a bigger purpose.
  - Peter was responsible to partner with Jesus.

**Christ’s plan has not changed!**

### Three Things I Know About You

1. Christ has a bigger purpose for you!

A follower of Christ is supposed to fish for people!

Who do you know that would benefit from an invitation to a life-giving, Bible teaching church?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

2. It's probable that you suffer from the fear factor.

Fear can protect you or it can imprison you.

- "Do not be afraid."

Do not be imprisoned by fear.

- Do not be confused.

You are doing them a favor!

- Do not be silent.

A question to ask

What's your family doing for Christmas this year?

A question to ask next

Since Christmas is about the reality of the birth of Jesus my family is going to church during Christmas week. My church usually does something really cool. I wonder if you'd like to come with us?

3. You can participate in God's plan but He is the provider of power.

You never know when God will provide a net bursting moment! But here's what you can do.

- You can pray.
- You can invite.

### **So What?**

You don't need a "no fear" transplant as much as you need a bigger vision reality.

Commitment: I will invite at least \_\_\_\_\_!

Today's Scripture is from The New Living Translation  
John Bray, December 3 & 4, 2011

### **Want to hear this again?**

The sermon is posted on the church web site by Monday evening.

[www.heritageqc.com](http://www.heritageqc.com) Hit "**Watch sermon on-line**"

To dig deeper, visit John's blog at [www.NowWhatJohn.com](http://www.NowWhatJohn.com)

## Now What? Resources for Reflection & Growth

The Top Ten List of Fears searched for on-line: flying, heights, clowns, intimacy, death, rejection, people, snakes, success, and driving.

What fears do you have?

Think about the scripture we read about Peter and his companions. Human nature seems to tell us to chase the dollar. Why do you think they were willing to follow Jesus and work to impact people's eternal destinies?

Make a list of reasons people don't witness about their faith?

What do you think causes those things?

Remind yourself of a verse we looked at several weeks ago. Read 2 Timothy 1:7. Go ahead and read verses 8-12 too.

- What "spirit" has God given us? Where do you think the spirit of timidity comes from?
- In verse 8 Paul tells Timothy to not be ashamed. What do you think it means to "be ashamed to testify about our Lord"? What does that look like? Why do you think we experience that?
- In New Testament times "suffering for the gospel" involved persecution, being cut off from families, sometimes economic hardship, and sometimes even death. What kind of "suffering" are we worried about when it comes to witnessing for the faith?
- Read verse 10 again. What would this mean practically in the life of someone you know who does not yet know Jesus?
- Read verse 12 in several translations (I love how The Message translates it). If you really believed this, how would it affect your witnessing?

Let's go back to the idea of fear. Read the following sampling of scripture. What antidotes to paralyzing fear do you see? Genesis 15:1; Genesis 26:24; Exodus 14:13; Deuteronomy 3:22; Deuteronomy 31:8; Luke 12:4; John 14:27; Acts 18:9-10

Sometimes we think of Christ's Biblical followers as people who had no fear. Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5. Spend some time digging out four or five thoughts/application points about witnessing to Christ's truth. Paul was afraid but not imprisoned/silenced by his fear. What do you think his secret was?

Who are you hoping to invite to Christmas services (or to the Questions for God series beginning January 14-15)? Why them?

Spend some time praying for these people. Ask God to prepare their hearts for your invitation. When do you hope to ask them?