

Fred Kindhart Preaching

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[0 : 00] This message was recorded at Vision Baptist Church in Alfred, Georgia. It is our prayer that you will be blessed by the preaching of God's Word. It certainly is a great honor to be here. Thank you, Pastor, for inviting me to come, allowing me to come.

We've had a little bit of time to talk and reminisce. It's what old folks are good at, reminiscing. Amen. We don't gossip, we reminisce.

We reminisce about others and what they're doing. And somebody said, you know, if you want the neighborhood to know, tell a lady. But I added, if you want a few states to know, tell a pastor.

He's got friends out there. If you want the whole world to know, tell a missionary. Because he's got friends all around the world and it'll get there. But I am glad for this time together.

If you ever heard anything good about me from him, that's probably not right. But anyway, I met people tonight that said, oh, I've not met you, but I've heard a lot about you.

[1 : 01] If you heard a lot, then you had to hear some bad stuff too because they're not a lot of good. But I have enjoyed having a friendship with your pastor. I know that life is busy.

I don't know about the rest of you, but I'm pretty sure if you're in America especially, I don't know what it is. With all the technology, we're supposed to be able to do more.

We're supposed to know more. We're supposed to remember more. We're supposed to, I don't know what all we're supposed to do, but I don't get half of it done. I told someone today here, don't feel bad about reminding me two or three times because I don't know how I get so busy.

My dad used to tell me, boy, you've got too many irons in the fire. Ain't none of them hot. If he can see me now, I've got more irons than fire. But it's an honor to serve the Lord.

It's an honor to try to do something for Him. And if we're able to do anything to His honor and to His glory, what a joy. Down through the ages, people that's had a heart to serve God, He makes a way for them to serve you.

[2 : 10] Some of them have served God in a very difficult way. How many of you have read any of the Fox's Book of Martyrs? Oh, my, my, my.

There was a while there in Atacomuco, Mexico. Every Sunday night I would read about someone in the Fox's Book of Martyrs. If we're not careful, we get to think we're really doing something for God.

How about a mother watching her son on the end of a pole with a chair on it, tied to that chair, being put down in the water until bubbles come up.

And they raise him up and the mother immediately cries out, Don't recant. Be faithful. Don't recant.

My, my, we live in a spoiled generation. Me included. Before my wife married me, her mother warned her.

[3 : 12] She said, He is spoiled. His mother spoils him. She did. And I liked it. It's just really nice to be spoiled.

I'll tell you something, God spoils us too. We have far more than we deserve. We have far more than we need. Someone kindly told me that I looked like I lost weight.

Brother John, get your eyes checked. He was just being kind. I told him, look, good clothes and a window can even make a dummy look good.

All I need is a window. Yeah. Anyway. I got the dummy part. But I told someone they need to put up, change the signs at these buffets.

It says all you can eat. It should say all you should eat. Because I take it for literal. I mean, I just eat all I can. But God's been good to us. And I thank Him for it.

[4 : 12] I wish my wife could have been here. I know Miss Betty wishes she could have been here. She sends her love. And her precious wife. I was singing. I was thinking, sure wish I had my alto here.

Sure would have sounded a whole lot better. I'll tell you, I thank God for how He's putting lives together around here as well. If you're going to do something for God, and you're going to be married, you better be married to the right person.

Someone with a heart for God and a heart for serving. Because I'm going to tell you something. It can look easier than it is. Did you know most things look easier than they are?

I was driving a 1965 Silver Eagle church bus. And it's an old, old, old trailways bus.

Wore out. Linkages wore out by the John. The linkages went from the front of the bus to the transmission in the back of the bus. Four forward gears. If you could shift all four without grinding any at all, you felt so blessed.

[5 : 19] And I drove trucks. Easy to shift. That thing wasn't. Took some people somewhere one time, and this old fellow back there waited, and the last one off the bus. He said, Son, You ain't been driving this thing long, have you?

I got a dump truck at the house. I don't grind the gears in it. Oh, my flesh said, hmm, hmm, let me start this thing up and let you take it around the block, big boy.

You try it out. Because it looks easier sitting back there than it really is. You notice how easy it is to drive from the back seat? Even from the passenger side, it's not too hard.

But I'll tell you what, this thing about serving God, God makes a way. It's not always easy, easy, it's not falling off a log, but I'll tell you what, it's sweet to serve God.

Nothing, nothing better than serving God. If there's not any battles, how could there be any victories? If there's not any difficulties, we'd be, we just wouldn't know the joy of having God to help us to do His will.

[6 : 28] And His way, let me, let me see here. I don't see as good as I used to, so if I don't stop till 9 o'clock, I'll be the only one here. I realize it's a busy time, and we need to get home and get some rest for tomorrow.

But if you'll take your Bibles and look with me, Luke chapter number 5, read a few verses and try to give you a thought, or some thoughts. I trust it will be a blessing, an encouragement. I want you to know God wants to use everybody.

In fact, in some way, in some fashion, He does use everybody. You might see an old sinner standing in the middle of the street shaking his fist at God, but God can use that some kind of way to show somebody how foolish that person really is.

I'm glad that, like someone said and we repeat, God could take a crooked stick and draw a straight line. Don't wait till you're perfect to serve God, because you'll never get there, this side of heaven.

We're a long ways from perfect, but oh, if we'll just be willing, He will use us. Luke chapter number 5, and again, I can't thank you enough for this opportunity. I realize that you could have invited a lot of people to be here, but I'm honored to be here.

[7 : 47] I mean that. Had a good afternoon talking with your pastor, putting up with Tony. I honestly didn't know that was Tony when he came in.

I didn't. I hadn't seen him in a while. His hair is not coming out of his head no more. It's coming out of his face. I didn't know who it was. One thing about Brother Tony, we love to pick on him, because we love him, and he can take it.

You just break down and start bawling, we'll quit picking on you. Luke chapter 5, And it came to pass that as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret and saw two ships standing by the lake.

But the fishermen were gone out of them and were washing their nets, and he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people out of the ship.

Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a drop. And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night and have taken nothing.

[9 : 00] Nevertheless, thy word, I will let down the net. When they had done this, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes and their net break. And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them.

And they came and they filled both the ships so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord. For he was astonished at all that were with him at the draught of the fishes which they had taken.

And so was also James and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not, from this forth thou shalt catch men. When they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all and followed him.

Let's pray. Father, we love you. Thank you for the opportunity to stand here and open your word. Lord, we not only want to look into your word, we want your word to look into us. Lord, take the truth of your word and through your spirit touch our hearts.

Encourage us. We might do more for you. Lord, if there would be anyone here not saved, touch them. Open their eyes and save them before it's eternally too late. Have your will and your way. And we'll thank you for it.

[10 : 09] Help me, God. I need you. I ask in Jesus' precious name. Amen. And amen. I want to try to preach out of this passage. I'm sure you've read it many times and heard teachings and preachings out of this passage.

But I just want to think about this thought. Give your boat to God. Give your boat to God. Your life to God.

You see, we find here that the Lord comes and the multitude follows Him out there. And these fishermen, they didn't really know Jesus yet. They were about to meet Him. They were about to find out a little more about Him.

And here they are and you see what happens here. How that the multitude, they gathered around and the Bible says here that He saw two ships standing by the lake but the fishermen were gone out of there and were washing their nets.

I want to think about that just for a minute, that washing their nets. I think about why we go to church. A part of that is to wash our nets. The Bible talks about the Word of God being like water that will wash and help us as Christians.

[11 : 17] Of course, it's the blood of Jesus that forgives sins. But I want you to know when we live in this world and we work and do and go, there's things that happens. There's thoughts that come.

There's people that say. There's a lot going on. And I'm glad that we can come to the house of God, meet together, pray for each other, sing with each other, give and even ask the man of God to stand and open that Word and preach to me.

I need it. I don't know about you, but I need somebody to preach to me. I need somebody to remind me. I need somebody to encourage me that I might draw a night of God.

That He would work in our lives and be what He wants us to be. And I see here that they were washing their nets. Number one, the cause is they get dirty. I want you to know it doesn't matter what your name is.

Even though you can be saved by the grace of God, that doesn't mean life doesn't get dirty. That doesn't mean thoughts don't begin to kind of pile up and get in the way and just get where it just makes it hard for us to do what we ought to do.

[12 : 22] But I'm glad. I'm glad when we go to the house of God that the Lord can take the water of His Word and begin to wash away things that we don't need. Listen, they were trying to do right.

They were trying to catch fish. Sometimes it's catching sticks. I don't know if any of you, probably nobody here is as country as I am, but hey, I know what seinen is all about.

I know what gill nets are. I know what casting nets are. Now, when I first got to Mexico, I thought it was so cool. You didn't have to have a license to catch fish with a casting net.

I mean, great big ones. I was a whole lot younger then. Standing up in the front of a boat and one of my buddies would row and we'd cast that net and begin to pull in some fish and I liked it.

But I'll tell you, sometimes you pull in things that aren't fish. You're meaning to do well. You're wanting to do well. You're wanting to live right. I mean, just Sunday, you enjoyed a wonderful service and you told the Lord, I want to go out and live for you.

[13 : 22] But boy, this flesh and this world and things around us get us the need to come back to church again. You're looking at me kind of funny. I want to tell you something, ain't nobody perfect.

There's not any preachers that are perfect. Not any missionaries that are perfect. Nobody's perfect, but we serve a perfect God. And this brother talked about forgiveness. I want to tell you what, it's a good thing we have a forgiving God.

Amen? Because if He didn't forgive us, we wouldn't have made it to church tonight. I mean, if He'd have given us what we deserve, we'd probably be piled up in a big old chunk of iron somewhere in an intersection and gone from here.

But God says, you know what, I see a heart that wants me to wash them, make them what they ought to be, turn them into something that can reach out and reach out to others and try to do something.

They pretty much were a failure up to here as far as catching fish that night. The cause that they're washing their nets is because it's muddy, it's dirty.

[14 : 25] And I'm going to tell you, if you start missing church, you're going to get dirtier and dirtier. You say, Brother Fred, now do I have to be there? Well, when it's available, you need to be there.

I just recently heard, somebody said, do you know what a dirty old man is? They said it was a man who's married to a wife that has three daughters and only one bathroom in the house. And that could be about right.

I have three daughters and a wife and I have been with one bathroom and sometimes it takes a while before you get your turn to get in there. But I do want you to know this, God's allowed us when your church is in session, you know what, by the good grace of God, if there's nothing that's stopping you, we need to be there.

We need to be there. You say, that message wasn't for me. I mean, I'm not doing that. Well, it helps me if I'm starting to do that. Amen? It'll keep me from it. I told a guy in Mexico, it was a strange family.

We had a mission started out there and I come by. Your pastor's been there. And there was a little short lady. I mean, she was so short and there was a homemade bench in the very back and when she got on the bench, she got up on it.

[15 : 34] You could tell when she was going to testify because she got shorter. She got down off the bench. And her husband, he couldn't see hardly. He had one of those things the jewelers use, you know, to look at a watch. He'd put that in.

That's how he'd read his Bible and try to read his song book. And he'd get up and say, well, I'm reading my Bible but I ain't getting a thing out of it. I mean, ain't that a blessing?

Somebody testifying that in the service? Anybody got a testifying? Oh, yeah, I'm reading my Bible every day but I ain't getting a thing out of it. I said, well, maybe it's getting something out of you. I mean, you know, you ladies stick a strainer under the faucet and move it around and you're not catching nothing but you sure are washing the strainer.

Amen? Sometimes you feel like, you know, well, I heard that before. Yeah, but I might just need to hear it again. I'm glad I don't just get to read the Bible. Read those verses one time and they disappear.

I need them over and over and over again. Amen? I need somebody to expound on them and study in them. I was talking to your pastor about a good friend of mine, Dr. James Jones from Harriman, Tennessee.

[16 : 36] Some of you that get out and about and they get to his church, Harriman Baptist Tabernacle. But you talk about somebody that gets in the book. Man, he gets in a verse and gets stuff out and gets stuff out and I've been interpreting for him and thinking, okay, we're moving on.

No. And he gets through with another truth and I thought, okay, now the next verse. No, not yet. I'm going to tell you there's a whole lot in this book that helps get a whole lot out of our lives that keep us from being what we ought to be for the Lord if we just let Him.

I see the cause for washing the nets is that they get dirty. I see the cure is that washing and we've already been talking about that and I see the choice. God likes to use clean vessels, clean nets, clean lives.

Again, I said we'll not be perfect in this life but I believe we ought to allow Him. I can remember I had a mother that she would send me in to take a bath when I was a little boy and when I come out I thought I was clean.

I was clean enough to suit me. I wasn't clean enough to suit her. You know why my ears are so big? Well, it's really because they grew that way but I thought it was because she's going to pull them off.

[17 : 45] Dig them out. I'm telling you I didn't know worse rags could go that far into my ear. She was not. She was brutal. At least that's what I thought.

Every now and then the Lord gets kind of close to the road too. Every now and then He quits talking to them and starts talking to me. You know what? I heard about a fellow that the pastor he always was trying to get to that man in his church.

Some things in his life. You know, he was just thinking this will help that guy. And one night you know, every day when he'd go out he'd say well what did you think? The preacher would ask him what did you think? And he said you got him today preacher.

You got him today. And the preacher was like this is for you. You know, he didn't say that but one day no one showed up but that fellow. He said I got him now. He preached up a storm.

On the way out he shook his hand and said well how about it? He said preacher if they'd have been here you'd have got him. You know, we often think it's for somebody else. But everything God says is for us.

[18 : 47] It's to help us. It's to make us grow. It's to make us what we ought to be. And God's He don't choose people the way we do. You remember when the man of God went to anoint well it was David that he anointed but man when he saw he saw some of the others and thought surely surely this is him.

The eldest came in there. Boy he looked good. I believe this is him. It's not about what we look like. It's about that heart that God sees. David had a heart after God.

A heart to do God's will. A heart to let God even when he did wrong even when he did wrong he fell on his face before God and said God I need your grace your mercy you do what you see fit I just want to I just want to serve you.

I just want to be what you want me to be. I'm going to tell you we will make some mistakes in this life. I'm not talking about going out and partying and doing things that we're not supposed to be doing and I mean them kind of parties you know what I'm talking about.

That's not what I mean but I mean just things that when we really get to thinking about them it begins to break our heart and we begin to say Lord I wish I wouldn't have done that I am sorry but I'm glad that he can mend he can fix he can cleanse he can use us and I'm glad that he chooses to use people just like you and me.

[20 : 05] Listen it's not about some people God's looking for somebody that's ready not reserved willing not waiting helping not hindering I'll tell you as you go and your pastor has experienced this when he was out in churches especially on deputation you go to a church and you meet somebody pray for me boy just as soon as I can do this and that I'm going to go into full time ministry you come back on furlough a few years later and go by and the fellow's still there he hasn't done nothing yet all that he said when that's changed it's changed I'm going to tell you don't let things hinder you say God wash my life take my life make me what I ought to be every time you come to church just be honest with God and tell him how imperfect you are and if I'll tell him how imperfect I am I'm going to tell you something he'll begin to wash and cleanse and then use our lives for his honor and glory don't misunderstand I am certainly not saying we have to be perfect to serve God but I believe you have to be yielded

I believe you have to be honest I believe you have to be willing not only the washing of the nets but the working with the nets I see what happened here and I see I see God said to him here he entered into one of the ships which was Simon's and prayed to him that he would thrust out a little from the land and he sat down and taught the people out of the ship let me touch on some things here and then we'll move out into the deep but I think about this and I think about there's a lot of young men and young ladies here that want to serve God and that's wonderful that's wonderful I commend you I'm so glad for you I'm glad for your heart I'm glad for your desire but I want you to know something before they thrust out into the deep Simon Peter had to maintain that little ship in one spot for Jesus to teach and preach what he wanted to teach and preach now if you've ever been out in a boat you know one thing it doesn't sit still I don't care if it's a if it's a pond no wind for some reason that boat won't stay in one place you either have to have an anchor or somebody has to actively be moving an oar or a paddle or something to keep it where it ought to be as you study as you prepare don't be thinking you know what

I just I need to go on I know enough already I mean I already know more than them trying to teach me to be honest with you I can get this job done how how still can you keep the boat how well can you maintain your place where God wants you to be Simon had to thrust out there just a little ways and keep that boat you know maybe I'm wrong but I'm thinking about a fisherman here that's like first of all if you happen to go to one of these lakes around here and see a boat with nobody in it don't get in it because somebody might shoot you somebody is going to get mad at you I mean who is he to walk up and climb in somebody's boat but there was somebody that looked at him and said hey somehow even before Peter knew everything was going on somehow somehow he was willing and that willing if you have a willing heart I'm going to tell you something God will make something out of your life he's not going to send everybody to the same place he's not going to do the same thing with everybody if everybody goes who's going to be here but I'll tell you one thing if we'll be willing he will put our boat where it needs to be he will help us to be what we ought to be here's Simon maintaining that boat right there and I believe at some point he begins to listen to what's going on

I believe at some point he's hearing I don't mean I don't mean just hearing the word of God I mean he's hearing the word of God I'm talking about Jesus himself there he is speaking to them people all of a sudden Simon Peter begins to let him speak to his heart I think about the way that he worked with Simon and with these others he didn't just he didn't say okay now get over here and let me out of this boat and then you guys go out there and catch some fish he went with them boy aren't you glad that God doesn't send people to the mission field he goes with them as a matter of fact he's you get ready to go he'll be there waiting on you and he'll go with you and he is he is very active in what you're doing to serve God he's there he's there when it's time to keep your little boat in the same spot he's there when it's time to be in your class he's there when it's time for you to study his word he's there when it seems like

I really would like to be over there I want you to know God's right there with you encouraging helping building making you what you ought to be as he's reaching out to others but Jesus he went with them of course you know the Bible says in Luke 28 20 and lo I'm with you always even unto the end of the earth not only that Jesus he didn't work like others think but he did he did the work he did a miracle here I want you to know if we'll listen and learn then we'll love and live and labor and do what God wants us to do not only the washing the nets and the working with the nets but the last thing the wages from the nets they get out there you know what happens here you read it with me you've heard it before he says he says let down your nets for a drought I've heard a lot of people preach about that where it says nets and he only let down one and I'm not going to get into that that's all fine well and good Simon answering said unto him master we have toiled all the night and taken nothing I want you to know it takes a whole boatload of honesty for a fisherman to say that right there

[25 : 52] I'm talking about a professional commercial this is what he does fisherman we didn't catch a thing all night long I don't know about you but it's one thing to not catch nothing on a hook but if you're using nets and you didn't catch nothing on a long that doesn't speak well of you being a fisherman but he was honest we'll be honest with God and tell him Lord I know I know I have the heart but I don't have the ability I need you I want you to know if we'll go in his power go in his presence with his purpose that's what happened here number one what were the wages they had his presence I'm talking about they had God in their boat well if you'll give your life your boat to God tonight say Lord I'll go where you want me to go

I'll stay where you want me to stay I'll be what you want me to be dear Lord just lead me and guide me and help me wash me and cleanse me and make me teach me and use me however you want I'm going to tell you sometimes I try to do what maybe isn't my responsibility thinking it would be better if I could just do this but I'm going to tell you something the smallest thing done by the hand of God is marvelous I believe when we get to heaven we're going to see things happen and things that we thought we thought we thought it was because of this or because of that or him or her or them and it might have been because just of somebody somewhere I want you to know if I'm not careful I can begin to think you know I speak Spanish pretty well I still make a lot of mistakes but I speak Spanish pretty well but I'm going to tell you something I had a praying mama Miss Betty my dad worked the second shift he said every night

I came home she's kneeling at that couch right there begging God for her boy in Mexico he could learn to speak Spanish and tell other people about Jesus I'll tell you something that's a good way to learn the language right there that's a real good way to know you have somebody that loves you and cares for you and prays for you but I want you to know it's not just how well you speak the language I have a friend up in South Carolina his Spanish is horrible horrible it just really is I mean I wouldn't want him to know I wouldn't say his name but he has his Spanish work and I'm going to tell you something that people love him I'm talking about he communicates but I mean it's masticado butchered it's it's not quite all there but he teaches them the truth and loves them with a love of Calvary and has given his life for them and I'm going to tell you something don't you say nothing about him don't you make fun of his Spanish because you won't be in trouble with some people that love him and are glad that he's teaching them with a heart for God what I'm trying to tell you is this if you have God's presence you'll have his power and I believe that's going to get a lot done let me hurry up and get through you'll have his pleasure

I see him here and I see this story and I got to quit it's already it's already 7 o'clock in Alabama I'm through but I got to give you this look at what happened I mean all of a sudden the net is breaking I mean didn't catch anything all night long and now that the sun's up and it's got hot and they ain't a good time to be fishing they've got up two boatloads in one net he begins to beckon and they come and they fill them boats up with fish they see the hand of God and what he did and they didn't say wow they didn't go rowing back to shore saying what great fishermen we are what great missionaries we are what a great preacher I am glory to God oh I'm doing a good job boy it's because I gave my life it's because I've been faithful Simon Peter fell on his knees at the knees

I can see Jesus sitting there on one of the benches in the boat I can see Simon Peter looking at all the fish but then he looked at that fellow sitting in his boat he said this isn't an ordinary man this is God this is that chosen one this is the one this is the one that that saves from sin and I know there was a lot that hadn't taken place yet but he recognized God incarnate and fell on his knees and I believe he rode that boat a little different on the way back in the Bible says they began to sink I mean that means they were down to the gunwales they were down to that little part sticking out don't rock the boat that might be a good message along in here don't rock the boat I mean hey when God's adding to and blessing don't rock the boat amen but here they go back in and I I may be wrong but I firmly believe there's still some people hanging around they did that a lot when Jesus was around they probably began to watch is that them same people

[31 : 22] I'm going to tell you something you've experienced this I've got to quit you've experienced this you've seen some young missionaries and older missionaries middle aged missionaries whatever that is now I don't know I got to an age I don't know what's what no more I am middle aged I don't care if I am the what third third from the oldest in this building right now help me Lord but did you know you've seen missionaries go and when they come back they just looked a little different I don't know if you was able to meet Dean Hamby when he first came back from Africa skinny as a rail skin and bones I mean his old skull just had skin on it he'd been sick but buddy when he got up and preached the message sitting at the feet of Jesus oh my my my my you realize somebody had found that spot I've always said I told the people in Mexico whenever Brother Hamby can get down here I'll tell you how he's going to preach he's going to reach in take his heart out and set it right there on the pulpit and then he's going to preach that's just how he is but you know what how am I how am I all I know is

I want God to be in my boat I want him to be in my life I want him to be in my ministry I want him to be using me in some way to get glory and honor to his name and to point souls to Calvary I know you do too and I want to encourage you don't get upset if he has you just holding the boat in one little spot a little too close to the edge I'm going to be out you're under man I these men are swimming around here I want to get out there where the sail fish are at I went sail fishing one time remember that we didn't catch anybody we had a good time riding around talking but I want you to know one thing give your life to God let him be in your life working and moving washing cleansing and making you what he wants you to be and I'll promise you one thing it may not be last night but there will be a night and there will be a day and there will be a time there will be some fish in your net he will tell you

I'm going to make you fishers of men I'm going to make you somebody that can pray and help reach out to lost souls around the world to my honor and to my glory let's stand together pastor you come father we love you thank you for your goodness and allowing us to be here tonight bless each heart each life each person thank you lord for what you're doing through this church and this ministry and all that you have here in this place lord just keep using keep washing keep working help us lord to keep mending help us lord to be faithful and have your will and we'll thank you for it in Jesus name this message was recorded at Vision Baptist Church in Alfredo, Georgia for more information log on to www.visionbaptist.com where you can find our service times location contact information and more audio and video recordings