



1<sup>st</sup> Edition  
June 14, 2017

---

### Staff Outing

AARRRRR Mateys!!!

*This week we be traveling to Pirates Cove for some Mini-golf! Then we will sail over to Culvers & Taco Bell for supper. We should be home by 8pm.*

### James & John

*Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came over and spoke to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do us a favor."*

*"What is your request?" he asked.*

*They replied, "When you sit on your glorious throne, we want to sit in places of honor next to you, one on your right and the other on your left."*

*But Jesus said to them, "You don't know what you are asking! Are you able to drink from the bitter cup of suffering I am about to drink? Are you able to be baptized with the baptism of suffering I must be baptized with?"*

*"Oh yes," they replied, "we are able!"*

*Then Jesus told them, "You will indeed drink from my bitter cup and be baptized with my baptism of suffering. But I have no right to say who will sit on my right or my left. God has prepared those places for the ones he has chosen."*

*When the ten other disciples heard what James and John had asked, they were indignant. So Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

Jesus tells James and John: "You don't know what you are asking!" I am sure the same thing could often be said of us. It took time, but eventually James and John figured it out, and just as Jesus said, they did indeed drink from his bitter cup of suffering. Sometimes the desires of our heart don't match up with God's. That's why it is so important that we be transformed by the renewing of our minds like it says in Romans 12. And the best way to do that is by saturating yourself with the word of God.



## What's your definition of success?

James and John were successful fishermen. The bible says that they fished in deep water, which would have required large boats, heavy nets, and several hands to work the equipment. Deeper waters produced more and larger fish, resulting in more profits. But they gave it all up to follow Jesus. These guys had their flaws, but they definitely had a sense of what's most important in life. Here is a story from Bill Allison's book *Disciplemakers Guide to Grow, Minister, & Lead*:

An American investment banker was at the pier of a small coastal Mexican village when a small boat with just one fisherman docked. Inside the small boat

---

*If you don't clearly identify what you hope to accomplish in your ministry, then you'll be satisfied with ministry activities whether or not they accomplish anything of eternal significance. This is tragic and fairly prevalent. It's quite possible to fall into the black hole of purposeless ministry activity.*

---

were several large yellow fin tuna. The American complimented the fisherman on the quality of his fish and asked how long it took them to catch them. The man replied, "Only a little while."

The American then asked, "Why didn't you stay out longer and catch more fish?"

The fisherman said, "With this I have more than enough to support my family's needs."

The American then asked, "But what do you do with the rest of your time?"

The fisherman said, "I sleep late, fish a little, play with my children, take a siesta with my wife, Maria, stroll into the village each evening where I sip coffee and play guitar with my amigos. I have a full and busy life."

The American scoffed, "I'm a Harvard MBA. I can help you buy a bigger boat. With the proceeds from the bigger boat you could buy several boats. Eventually you would have a fleet of fishing boats. Instead of selling your catch to a middleman, you would sell directly to the processor. Eventually you would open your own cannery. You would control the product, processing and distribution. Of course, move to Mexico City, then Los Angeles and eventually New York where you will run your ever-expanding enterprise."

The fisherman asked, "But, how long will this all take?"

The American replied, "15 to 20 years."

"But what then?"

The American laughed and said, "That's the best part. When the time is right you would announce an IPO and sell your company stock to the public and become very rich. You would make millions!"

"Millions?...Then what?"

The American said, "Then you would retire and move to a small coastal fishing village where you would sleep late, fish a little, play with your kids, take a siesta with your wife, stroll into the village in the evenings where you could sip coffee and play guitar with your amigos."

