



## Relevant Fisherman

Robert Morris

**Focus** We are called to fish for people or share God with others. But we need to understand a few key concepts of fishing to be effective fishers of men and women.

**Fun** Have you ever been fishing? What is your most memorable fishing story?

**Review** Key Scriptures: Matthew 4:18–22; John 21:2–3

### 1. Put bait on your hook.

*Psalms 34:8*

Your story of God's goodness and faithfulness is the bait. Our story is not just a description of God's character but a taste of His goodness. And you don't have to have a bad story to have a good testimony!

### 2. Put your hook in the water.

We need to share our stories of God's faithfulness with others. If we never tell our testimony, it's like walking around a lake with bait on our hook but never casting it! Learn to tell your story in a short, genuine, and interesting way.

### 3. Fish where the fish are.

We need to share our stories with those we encounter every day. We live, work, and shop with people every day—start a conversation and tell people how your life was changed!

**\*Group Dynamics Idea\*** Practice sharing your story. This week, allow time in your group for members to practice sharing a story of God's goodness in their lives.

## Discuss

1. Psalm 34:8 tells us to “taste and see that the Lord is good.” What way can we give others a taste of God’s goodness?
2. Stories of times we experienced the goodness of God is as powerful as our salvation testimony. Share a time in your life when you experienced God’s love and power.
3. Having a story of God’s faithfulness but never sharing it is like having your hook baited, but never casting it into the water. Who are three people you encounter each week who need a relationship with God? Ask the Lord to remind you of a story you can share with each one.
4. Practicing our stories alone and with others is helpful to learn to tell them well. Who can help you practice your stories?
5. We need to fish where the fish are. They are in our workplaces, neighborhoods, and weekly activities. Where are your fish?

**Take Home** As we conclude, remember the following:

- Our story is not just a description of God, but a taste.
- Real stories of God's love and power draw people to Him.
- We must learn to tell our story well. Gateway offers classes to help you share your story.
- People love stories. When we tell stories, we’re not talking about religion; we’re talking about our lives.
- We need to feel the urgency to share Jesus Christ.

## Prayer

Lord, thank You for Your goodness in my life. Bring to mind those I encounter every day who need to hear about Your power and love. Remind me of how You’ve worked in my life and help me learn to tell the story well. I pray those who hear my stories will be drawn to You and choose a relationship with You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

**\*New Leader Tip\*** Redirecting is a crucial skill for group leaders. If you feel a member is dominating the discussion and are not sure how to redirect the conversation, talk with your Section Leader for tips on how to address this situation.