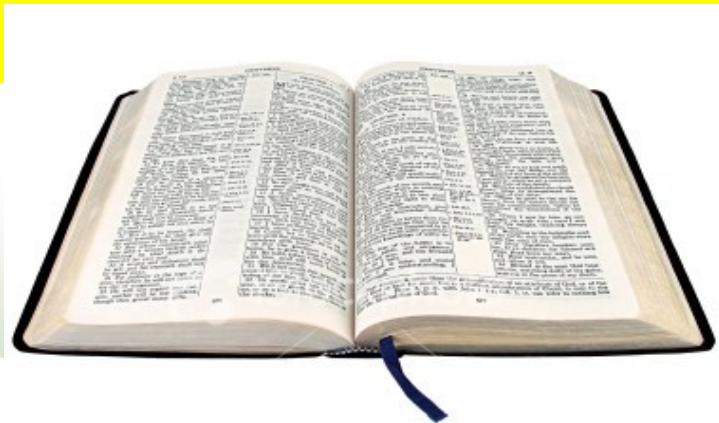


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April Swordsgman Teen Newsletter



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Numbers~ Circle the right answer:

1. Jonah was in the belly of a fish how many days?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4
2. The Son of man will be in the heart of the earth how many nights.
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4
3. When Peter denied Christ the third time, Peter began to curse and swear.
A. True
B. False
4. There were only four men on the ark that God saved; who were they?
1.____ 2.____ 3.____ 4.____
5. David picked up how many smooth rocks for his sling before the battle with Goliath?
A. 1
B. 3
C. 5
D. None of the above
6. God created heaven and earth in seven days.
A. True
B. False
7. Which attributes are part of the nine fruits of the Spirit?
A. Joy
B. Peace
C. Longsuffering
D. all the Above
8. What did Moses eat while he wrote the Ten Commandments?
A. Bread and water
B. Bread and Fish
C. Leeks and onions
D. Nothing
9. The woman that was healed by touching Jesus' garment was ill for how many years
A. 12 years
B. 30 years
C. 32 Years
D. None of the Above
10. The twelve disciples will judge the twelve tribes of Judah.
A. True
B. False
11. Judas Iscariot received how many pieces of silver to betray Jesus?
A. 10
B. 15
C. 20
D. 30
12. Joseph was sold into slavery for how many pieces of silver?
A. 15
B. 20
C. 25
D. 30
13. Jesus healed the man at the pool which had an infirmity for how many years?
A. 30
B. 32
C. 35
D. 38
14. The flood was upon the earth for how many days?
A. 30
B. 40
C. 50
D. 60
15. Satan drove Jesus into the wilderness for forty days to tempt Him.
A. True
B. False
16. The height of the ark was how many cubits?
A. 75
B. 200
C. 300
D. 400
17. The LORD put the spirit upon seventy elders to help Moses in the wilderness.
A. True
B. False
18. After the Israelite's seventy years of captivity in Babylon, God punished the king of Babylon.
A. True
B. False
19. We are to forgive someone how many times?
A. 70
B. 100
C. 350
D. 490
20. Daniel's seventy weeks prophesy ends with the anointing of the Most Holy.
A. True
B. False
21. The children of Israel were in Egypt for how many years?
A. 400
B. 430
C. 500
D. 530
22. It was how many years after leaving Egypt that the first Temple Was built?
A. 380
B. 480
C. 521
D. 300
23. Six hundred sixty-six is the number of the beast's name.
A. True
B. False
24. Jesus fed how many people with five loaves of bread and three fish?
A. 3000
B. 5000
C. 5000
D. None of the above
25. How old was Adam when he died?
A. 925
B. 950
C. 980
D. 990

Continued Next Column

Answers on Page 4

Swordsman Teen Newsletter

All Scripture in this publication is from the King James Bible.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

2023

APRIL

ISSUE 4

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Matthew 4:19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.



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Let's Go Fishing

This is one of my favorite messages and is probably about the third time I have used it. Why? Because every Christian should tell others how great a Saviour we have. Also it helps me to tell others about the Lord.

Luke 5:1-11 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, **2** And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets. **3** 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. **4** Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. **5** And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. **6** And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. **7** And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink. **8** When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. **9** For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken: **10** And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men. **11** And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.

Jesus, as He was calling out His disciples, said He was going to make them "**fishers of men.**" He then set out to train and teach them the process of being successful at their calling.

Every spring time I think of this a lot. For years I used to go fishing in Lake Ontario for bullheads and perch. One thing about fishing for men is that we do not have to wait for spring; we can go soul winning all year round. In New York, the winter time does prevent us from going out sometimes due to bad weather. **We, who have been called of God,** must be taught and trained to function properly in our calling. I trust this may give us food for thought on "How to be successful fishers of men."

Just like in Luke 5:2, we must prepare the nets.

Luke 5:2 And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were **washing their nets.**

Our lives must be clean. We need to keep our sins confessed. **We can't be effective soul winners with unclean nets.**

2 Corinthians 7:1 Having, then, these promises, beloved, may we **cleanse ourselves** from every pollution of flesh and spirit, perfecting sanctification in the fear of God;

We must mend our nets.

Mark 1:19 And when he had gone a little further thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship **mending their nets.**

rips, holes, and rips represent a spirit of division. Our nets must be mended before we can be effective fishers of men. Too many times I have seen people with bitterness, pride, or hurt feelings by another Christians. They don't make it. They don't finish their course. They missed it. They never got their nets mended. There was a hole, a rip, or a tear; and they never got it mended.

Mended defined: To remove damage.

Continued on Page 3

The Letter

One day a woman named Louise fell asleep in her bed and dreamed a very fitful dream. She dreamed that someone in Hell wrote a letter to her, and it was to be delivered to her by a messenger. The messenger passed between the lakes of burning fire and brimstone that occupies Hell, and found his way to the door that would lead him to the outside world. Louise dreamed that the messenger walked to her house, came inside, and gently but firmly woke Louise up. He gave her the message, saying only that a friend had written it to her from Hell. Louise, in her dream, with trembling hands took the letter and read:

My Friend,

I stand in Judgment now,
And feel that you're to blame somehow.
On earth, I walked with you day by day,
And never did you point the way.
You knew the Lord in truth and glory,
But never did you tell the story.
My knowledge then was very dim;
You could have led me safe to Him.
Though we lived together on the earth,
You never told me of the second birth,
And now I stand this day condemned,
Because you failed to mention Him.
You taught me many things, that's true,
I called you "friend" and trusted you.
But now I've learned that it's too late,
You could have kept me from this awful fate.
We walked by day and talked by night,
And yet you showed me not the Light.
You let me live, and love, and die,
You knew I'd never live on high.
Yes, I called you a "friend" in life,
And trusted you through joy and strife.
And yet on coming to the end,
I cannot, now, call you "My Friend."

After reading the letter, Louise awoke. The dream was still so real in her mind, and sweat dropped from her body in pools. She swore she could still smell the smell of brimstone and smoke from her room. As she contemplated the meaning of her dream, she realized that as Christian, she had failed in her duty to "go out to all the world and preach the gospel." As she thought of that, she promised herself that the next day, she would call Marsha and invite her to church with her. The next morning she called Marsha and this was the conversation:

"Hello, Bill, is Marsha there?"

"Louise, you don't know? Marsha was killed last night in car accident. I thought you knew."

Friend, is this your testimony? Are you witnessing to your friends that you are with everyday, or are you a Louise? Is there a friend in hell, asking you why you did not tell them about the Lord? Are you a Marsha who does not know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? As Christians we must be Christ-like. Christ commanded us to go out and preach His Word, so that others would come to the saving knowledge of God. It says in the Bible in *Romans 1:16* *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first,*



Mark 16:15
And he said
unto them,
Go ye into
all the world,
and preach
the gospel to
every
creature.

and also to the Greek.

2 Timothy 1:8 *Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:*

We must tell our friends who, if they were to die right now, would spend eternity in a place prepared for the devil and his angels. Let's be witnesses to the world, Christian friend.

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Rowing Your Boat

Two blondes were driving along a road by a wheat field when they saw a blonde in the middle of the field rowing a row boat. The driver blonde turned to her friend and said "You know - it's blondes like that that give us a bad name!"

To this, the other blonde replies "I know it, and if I knew how to swim, I'd go out there and drown her."

A Nun

Sister Mary was truly a religious woman. Besides for her duties as a nun, she was also very active in various hospitals visiting sick patients and taking care of all their needs. So it was no surprise that one day when she ran out of gas, the only container she could find to put the gas into was a bedpan. Sister Mary happily walked two blocks to the closest gas station filled up the bedpan with gas and headed back to her car. Luck would have it that as Sister Mary started tipping the gas into the fuel tank, the traffic light turned red and she had quite a large audience witnessing the spectacle. Just when she finished pouring in the last drops of gas a fellow opened up his window and hollered, "I swear! If that car starts I'm becoming a religious man!"

Appropriate Attire

One Sunday morning an old cowboy entered a church just before services were to begin. Although the old man and his clothes were spotlessly clean, he wore jeans, a denim shirt and boots that were very worn and ragged. In his hand he carried a worn out old hat and an equally worn out Bible. The church he entered was in a very upscale and exclusive part of the city. It was the largest and most beautiful church the old cowboy had ever seen. The people of the congregation were all dressed with expensive clothes and accessories. As the cowboy took a seat, the others moved away from him. No one greeted, spoke to, or welcomed him. They were all appalled at his appearance and did not attempt to hide it. As the old cowboy was leaving the church, the preacher approached him and asked the cowboy to do him a favor. "Before you come back in here again, have a talk with God and ask him what he thinks would be appropriate attire for worship." The old cowboy assured the preacher he would. The next Sunday, he showed back up for the services wearing the same ragged jeans, shirt, boots, and hat. Once again he was completely shunned and ignored. The preacher approached the man and said, "I thought I asked you to speak to God before you came back to our church." "I did," replied the old cowboy. "If you spoke to God, what did he tell you the proper attire should be for worshiping in here?" asked the preacher. "Well, sir, God told me that He didn't have a clue what I should wear. He said He'd never been in here before."

Let's Go Fishing

Each one of us needs to focus on the same thing. We need to cast our nets.

Mark 1:16 Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a **net into the sea: for they were fishers.**

Casting represents soul winning.

Proverbs 11:30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.

James 5:20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

Fishermen applied their trade daily.

We need to have the Master on board. Christ must have control.

John 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

The captain of a ship is in control of not only the vessel but also everyone on board. So must Christ be captain of our vessel. He knows how to fish, where to fish, and where the hungry ones are. He knows the hot spots. We have the range finder - the Holy Spirit of God.

We need to thrust out from shore.

In order to catch big fish, they had to get away from shore. We too must thrust out to where the people are. Today we tend to cloister ourselves in a building, expecting the unbelievers to come to us, to our way of doing things. These fishermen did it their way all night and were unable to catch fish. It is so much easier to just invite people to our services than to sit down one-on-one and share Christ with them. We need to thrust out. Many have a fear of water and trust the security of the shore. Likewise, many have a fear of stepping out in faith to witness one-on-one. We must thrust out.

Matthew 22:9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.

Do not get discouraged by failure. I worked on a church bus. One Sunday, I saw three kids playing when I dropped other kids off. I said, "I have to talk to the parents." I knocked on the door, got two words out, and slam!! The door was shut. But I just keep on keeping on.

Luke 5:5 And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.

They caught nothing. How frustrating it must be to labor all night and see no fruit from their labor. Jesus gave them the formula for success, and they caught more than they could hold. It was apparent, they were not doing it the Master's way. Not only in the world around us, but more so in the church; there is a sense of discouragement. We labor on and on and for the most part, see no results. That discouragement leads to many saying, "What's the use?" and wanting to give up. Maybe we are trying too hard to do it our way, and our way isn't working. Maybe we put too much on others who are not prepared for the task. It may be that we need to examine ourselves and re-think our methods.

The Lord said in **Isaiah 55:9** For as the heavens are higher than the earth, **so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.** Maybe we need to depend on His ways which are successful.

Luke 5:5 And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.

We need to be like Peter. The Lord says, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel."

We need to say, "**YES, SIR!**" **AND GO.**

April and June were dating...

The couple had been together many years, and, as far as one could tell from the outside were very happy together. But June had always felt as though there was something between them, something holding them back- something that April was keeping a secret.

As time went by, June got the impression that April was drifting away, and becoming colder. With every day, it felt as though the gap between them grew wider and wider. June had a suspicion as to what the cause might be- a little hussy by the name of May, who lived on the way from April's home to June's. June had seen the way May always made eyes at April when they walked past... she always looked smug, as though she knew something June didn't.

One day, the paranoia became simply too much for June. With nowhere else to turn, June enlisted the help of August, a private investigator, to track April's movements, and find out if there really were some grounds to June's fears. August, a diligent detective, set about the task immediately, watching April night and day. No single action, no matter how trivial, escaped August's notice. Each detail was meticulously recorded in a journal.

One day, about a week later, there was a knock at June's door. Nervous to the point of shaking, June opened the door to find August, journal in hand, and with a solemn expression.

"I have bad news, June..."

"What? What is it?" June panicked, grabbing August by the collar. "Tell me!"

"I... don't know how to say this, June... I'm sorry. Read the last entry..."

With a grimace, August handed June the notebook, already open to the most recent page. June's eyes scanned down the rows of neat notes, to the very last ones, listed as occurring just 20 minutes prior:

April showers.

Brings May flowers.

In April of 1620, it rained. That same year, the Pilgrims arrived.

I suppose the saying is true. April showers bring Mayflowers.

April showers bring May flowers. What do May flowers bring?

June bugs.

Answers to Quiz

1. C-3 - *Jonah 1:17*
2. C-3 - *Matthew 12:40*
3. A-True - *Matthew 26:74-75*
4. 1. Shem, 2. Ham, 3. Japheth, 4. Noah. - *Genesis 7:13*
5. C-5 - *1 Samuel 17:39-40*
6. B - False - *Exodus 20:11*
7. D - *Galatians 5:22-23*
8. D - *Exodus 34:28*
9. A - *Luke 8:43-44*
10. B- False - *Matthew 19:27-28*
11. D - *Matthew 26:14-15*
12. B - *Genesis 37:28*
13. D - *John 5:5*
14. B - *Genesis 7:17*
15. B- False *Mark 1:11-13*
16. C - *Genesis 6:15*
17. A - True - *Numbers 11:24-25*
18. A - True - *Jeremiah 25:11-12*
19. D - *Matthew 18:21-22*
20. A - True - *Daniel 9:24*
21. B - *Exodus 12:40-41*
22. B - *1 Kings 6:1*
23. A -True - *Revelation 13:17-18*
24. D - *Matthew 14:19-21*
25. C - *Genesis 5:5*

Memorize Verse

Matthew 4:19
"And he saith
unto them,
Follow me,
and I will make
you fishers of
men."



April Showers Bring May Flowers

Why Are You Yelling That?

A painting contractor was speaking with a woman about her job. In the first room, she said she would like a pale blue. The contractor wrote this down and went to the window, opened it, and yelled out, "Green side up!" In the second room, she told the painter she would like it painted in a soft yellow. He wrote this on his pad, walked to the window, opened it, and yelled, "Green side up!" The lady was somewhat curious, but she said nothing. In the third room, she said she would like it painted a warm rose color. The painter wrote this down, walked to the window, opened it and yelled, "Green side up!" The lady then asked him, "Why do you keep yelling, 'Green side up'?"

"I'm sorry," came the reply. "But I have a crew of blondes laying sod across the street."

Jesus is Calling

Jesus is calling, now is the hour
 His is the grace, and His is the power
 All who will heed His tender call
 Come to Him now, He is able to save all
 Who will enter the Door, it is open wide
 Oh come in today and with him abide.
 This door leads to joys yet unknown
 Will shut out God's judgment of sin for His own;
 Peace and contentment will be found herein.
 He died on the cross, our salvation to win
 The door is still open, oh, do not delay
 If you listen to Satan, his wages he'll pay
 But what suffering and loss you'll endure for aye
 If you turn away from the Saviour today.
 What a price He has paid for your sins and mine.
 Salvation is free, come now and you'll find
 Eternal security, joy, peace, and love
 And He will prepare you for mansions above.
 Many doors will be opened by Satan today
 He's still the deceiver, just kneel down and pray
 I come to Thee now, O Saviour, today,
 Just take me and wash all of my sins away.

Friars and Cannibals

Two cannibals meet one day. The first cannibal says, "You know, I just can't seem to get a tender Missionary. I've baked them, I've roasted them, I've stewed them, I've barbecued them, I've tried every sort of marinade. I just cannot seem to get them tender." The second cannibal asks, "What kind of Missionary do you use?" The other replied, "You know, the ones that hang out at that place at the bend of the river. They have those brown cloaks with a rope around the waist and they're sort of bald on top with a funny ring of hair on their heads." "Ah, ha!" the second cannibal replies. "No wonder ... those are friars!"

A Sure Thing

Three Pastors in the south were having lunch in a diner. One said "Ya know, since summer started I've been having trouble with bats in my loft and attic at church. I've tried everything--noise, spray, cats--nothing seems to scare them away. Another said "Yea, me too. I've got hundreds living in my belfry and in the narthex attic. I've even had the place fumigated, and they won't go away." The third said, "I baptized all mine, and made them members of the church... Haven't seen one back since!!!"

Follow the example of Jesus
 and be a fisher of men
Follow the example of Jesus
and be a fisher of men

The End