

- I have three sons – and I have gone fishing with all of them
Mike – my 2nd son has a unique attitude about fishing
He doesn't like fishing – he likes catching fish – otherwise its boring (patience)
So – patience is important when fishing, what else?
- BAIT – without bait we won't catch anything – so we need bait – what else?
- When I go fishing – I bring my rod from MA – it's really a 9' surf casting rod
When I go out with Jim Johnson I bring it
Jim has a spool with a bent nail for a sinker (who catches more fish?)
So the equipment doesn't matter as much as being patient and having good bait

Watch this:

Tom Di is a fat bald guy I know (not the best equipment to catch people, BUT...)
When Tom shares his faith he is very patient (he talks about Jesus)
That's the bait – Jesus – The Cross - Salvation
(Traffic accident survey)

What kind of bait does Jesus need to catch you? Has He reeled you in yet?
If God wanted you how would He do it? BECAUSE HE DOES

Today's reading are about God's Call – about being *caught* by God

- Isaiah hears God while praying in the Temple
- Peter has just seen Jesus heal his mother in law and now this catch of fish
- I've heard story after story about how God has changed people's lives – BUT –
THERE IS A PATTERN in the call of Isaiah & Peter

AND WE CAN LEARN FROM IT

When we hear God call – our first reaction is ME?

1. Sense of unworthiness – we all know our sin, and feel inadequate, WHY ME

But is that true – or a lie to keep us down? Isaiah

We are children of God, We are Beloved Peter

We come from Victory – *So what does God do ?*

2. Forgiveness – the forgiveness of God – For Is. - an Angel with a burning coal

For Pete - Word from Jesus – WE HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN

That's the Good News - God **does** love us, 1x1, just U

**When we accept that, we can be used by God to bring that
Same realization to others**

3. Commission – *While he's in the bottom of the boat* "I'll make you fisher of men
While kneeling in the Temple Isaiah hears "Who will I send"
Don't be surprised, when you repent, the anointing falls on YOU

4. Respond – "Send Me" – what a change from "I'm a man with unclean lips"
Each of us is loved by God. We all know others ALSO loved by God that need salvation.
Whether at school, at home, or at work – we have the same call of Isaiah and Peter.
To share the Good News of Salvation through forgiveness of sin

THIS IS OUR FAITH, WE ARE CALLED TO SHARE IT

(You want to know what to do for Lent – maybe it's time to go fishing)

Rabbi and the Soap maker

S>There is so much trouble in the world – does religion really make any difference?

Come upon a dirty child playing in the mud

R>There is so much soap in the world, yet we still have dirty children, does soap make any difference.

For soap to be effective you have to use it.

Exactly – it is the same with our faith.