



## Crayons To Coffee Cups



### And you shall be fishers of men

*And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19)* In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus has begun preaching in Galilee and has encountered the fishermen Simon Peter and Andrew. It is in this verse, that Jesus calls the pair to join him. But this same request is really not 2000 year old. Actually it takes place every day at every hour and at every minute. Jesus has been calling every person to follow Him and become the fishers of men. Fishing would be easy if we could put a basket by the water and have the fish jump into them! But that's not how it works. You must wade out into sometimes uncharted waters or get into a boat and go farther from shore. If you only spend time with other Christians, you'll have little chance to interact with non-believers. So Jesus asks us to cast out our nets. Just as it was not enough for Peter and Andrew to take their boat out to the middle of the lake, in order to catch fish, they had to also throw their nets into the water. For us, "casting our nets" means getting the message out. Sometimes we find ourselves to be a little apprehensive in throwing our nets out. The fear is that we do not know what the outcome will be. Jesus did not ask Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John to follow him and then give them no direction. Rather, he spent the next three years teaching his apostles how to be fishers of men. He also sent the Holy Spirit to give them the knowledge and the courage to fulfill their mission. We have heard the call of Jesus. So we cast out our nets into our jobs, in our relationships and marriages. We pray that we may be more like the apostles. Sometimes we find ourselves having to mend the broken nets of our relationships and our jobs and our marriages. But then we hear the call of Jesus: "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." When we chose to follow Jesus, we find that it can take us out of our comfort zones and we want the fish to come to us. Of course, that is not how you fish for people. When we go out to God's people, we will discover that our faith is sought, taught and caught. Sherrie Clutts DRE