

The Price to Become Fishers of Men - Part 3

by K.P. Yohannan

The sermon emphasizes the importance of being willing to sacrifice everything for the sake of the gospel and having a passion for the lost in order to be fishers of men.

Duration: 13:31

Topics: "Lost Mankind"

Description

In this sermon, Dr. K.P. Ohanon emphasizes the need for Christians to be passionate about sharing the gospel and making disciples. He criticizes the superficiality and lack of concern for the lost that he sees in American culture. He urges pastors and leaders to set an example by fervently praying for the salvation of others, even to the point of tears. Dr. Ohanon draws inspiration from the early church fathers who sacrificed everything to know God and spread the gospel. He concludes by reminding listeners of the cost of discipleship and the importance of obeying Jesus' command to go into all the world and preach the gospel.

Transcript

Jesus extends this invitation to you, come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. You see, he wants us to go into all the world, preach the gospel, and make disciples. It will be costly, but definitely worth the cost.

Today on The Road to Reality, we'll hear the rest of Dr. K.P. Yohannan's message on the price to become fishers of men. What has our Christianity done to us? We have no pain, no feeling about the reality of a world going to hell, two billion people. And I say this to you because the call of Christ still remains the same, saying, go into the whole world and preach the gospel.

And the book of Acts, 30 years, you beat them, you put them in prison, you take their clothes off, you starve them, whatever they do, it's going to stop it. How brilliant we are to teach the book of Philippians, we do a good job. But have you ever heard that verse, he says, oh, you, my brothers and sisters at Philippi, you love me so much, you are so in agony about my being in prison, chained to these soldiers every four hours, lost all my freedom.

Oh, I got good news for you. Don't worry about it. I just want you to know this imprisonment helped, helped, aided for the furtherance of the gospel.

Can you say my changing the plan of my vacation to go to this land, that land, this place, that place, and embrace the inconveniences helped to spread the gospel? Can you say my fasting every week for a couple of days and taking the resources for Bible to be printed and gospel to be sent out, can you say my going to McDonald's to get a hamburger and a cup of coffee helped me to share the gospel, give 10 gospel tracts out? I say this to you because book of Acts, you find the fulfillment of that verse, I will make you fishes of men. But it never happened without price that they will pay. And one time, a whole lot of followers, they said, what on earth this guy is saying? It is too hard.

He is telling us to drink his blood and eat his flesh. It is too hard. No, they didn't want it.

They walked away. I am a lover of ancient history. When I was studying in college, that was my favorite subject.

But then as a Christian worker, a minister, I read and still read anything I can find on the ancient church history. And I am gripped, changed, challenged, and I weep when I read about the early church fathers. The early years of the church.

How people left the limelight of all what they had, the lectures, everything, walked away from all into the desert just to know God for nothing else. How they went everywhere preaching and sharing the gospel. And I am gripped with the reality of people who left everything, everything of their home and luxury, just like Christ left heaven and came to earth to suffer and to die.

How they went all over the world like the Moravians. I was in East Germany, now it is not East Germany, to speak at a conference a while ago. And exactly the same place the Moravians began their ministry.

And I heard the stories that really made me really, really convicted. And they told the story about the 10 Moravian families. And they're praying together in a prayer group.

They're praying not for their little problems. They're praying for the world. The Sikkim and Bhutan and Nepal and other countries and all these places.

And then their prayer is, Oh God, please send me to the mission field. Each one praying like that's a prayer. And finally the day comes, they cast lots.

Which of the family will go to the mission field? Well, I go to India and China and wherever I'm going, I go to the airport and get in the Lufthansa and go to sleep before I know it, I'm there. But not then. Uh-uh.

It's months and months of agony. And when they leave their home, the goodbye is said and the goodbye forever. But then the 10 families' names are written and put in the pot and one is pulled out.

All right. And the nine families, it is said, they all start crying. They start crying because each one, not only in their hours of praying together, but privately they're praying, God, please pick me and my wife and children to go to the mission field.

But their names didn't get picked. And the nine families would continue to pray and help those, that one family that go to the mission field. And most probably they'll never come back alive.

Asking your forgiveness for the misunderstanding you will have about me tonight. Has this Jesus Christ you claim to be your Lord cost you anything? Flesh, sin, luxury? Do you realize we complain about a lot of stuff going on in this country about money and everything? Do you realize that half of the world actually

live with less than \$2 income per day? I know. I know.

It's not an easy message. No, it was never my idea originally to have anything to American young people to go to mission field, any of those things. I am passionate about half of the world that never heard the name Jesus.

But a few years ago, during my endless travels in this country, speaking to people, the church, I realized that I love America. I love the church here. And I care about the body of Christ here.

And I can do something small that is at least to touch the lives of young people and turn them around because I lost hope in the older folks, generally speaking. I ask you the question, what on earth is happening to us, to our church? You know what I'm experiencing? I mean, I told my office in the United States, wherever a university, a college come invite me to speak, I will pay my ticket and go and speak for them. I'm going to a couple of them, 5,000, 10,000, you know, students, universities.

The reason why I believe the younger generation, some of you older people, listen to me close. The young people under the age 22 or 20 today absolutely do not care nothing about a lot of stuff. The light, the sound, the music, the movies and the flash, stupid stuff.

They're promoting on television here in America. They don't care about it. They are hungry for reality.

Reality is something worth living for, something worth dying for. That is what Christ called us to offer all on the altar. And unless you and I change our thinking, you as a pastor, you as a leader, you as a shepherd, unless you can see in the middle of the night, you are on your knees weeping, they can hear the sobbing sound because you're praying for the names of people that do not know the Lord.

Church people, backslidden, and Indian, Pakistan, Burma, and Albania, and Mexico, and these nations where people are dying without Christ, and next morning your kid will not say one word to you, but most probably that daughter, that son will say someday after 15 years, somebody ask, what made you to be a radical for Jesus? And that son will say, you want to know? When I was nine years old, I heard somebody weeping. I thought, what happened? I couldn't sleep. I got up and sneaked, and the crying was coming from the living room.

I saw my dad. He was weeping. It was a world map.

Then I saw him not eating several days, and I asked my mom, what happened to daddy? And mommy said, daddy is hurting. His heart is breaking for the people that do not know the Lord, the people that are backslidden in our church. And we decided, when I grow up, I want this Jesus.

When I grow up, I want to live for him. It was not theology. It was not lecture.

It was not hot dog and ice cream and Alaska trip. No, it was a passionate, a broken life that walked in the footsteps of Jesus. Oh, how I wish that we become the answer to this nation and to the world, but it never happened, never happened, unless we embrace the cross.

When my son went to Nepal, walking seven days to go to a mission field, somebody asked him, Danny, you can live in Germany. You can be in the United States. Why you are not? You are here in Nepal.

This is dead. This is nothing. Look at you.

You are dying. What made you do this? My son never said this to me, but he told our missionary, I grew up in our home. My sister and I, we saw our parents, what they live for, whatever they talked.

We saw them behind the door. They never told me to go to mission field. I'm not a perfect individual.

I failed a million times. But, oh, how I plead with you to stop playing games. Christianity is a call to come and die, and so that this world around us, before they die and go to hell, hear about our Lord.

And I'm telling you, let us not lose our privilege. Let's press forward to the end. Before you know it, you will want to sing, I wish I was 18 again, but not possible.

Not possible. But now we can live and live so that His call, come, follow me. I will make you fishers of men.

This is The Road to Reality, and our speaker is Dr. K.P. O'Hannon, the founder and director of Gospel for Asia. Maybe as you're contemplating the direction of your life, the Lord is stirring in your heart a desire to reach the unreached. We'd encourage you to pray about joining our one-year school of discipleship.

It is a very unique program. As you're being discipled, you'll have a ministry role in Gospel for Asia's Think of some of the things you take part in. You'll help unreached people hear about Jesus for the very first time.

Children will go on to receive education and experience Christ's love. And you'll serve to help families break the cycle of poverty. We can tell you more about the one-year school of discipleship and how to enroll at roadtoreality.org. Order an information packet while you're at it.

Again, we're at roadtoreality.org. Or call us toll-free with any questions you may have at 866-WIN-ASIA. That's 866-WIN-ASIA. With that, we'll say goodbye.

But we look forward to our next time together with you on The Road to Reality with Brother K.P. O'Hannon. Until then, God bless.

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