

...Follow me, I will make you fishers of men Mt 4:19



Fantastic Hookers of the Bible

Aug 28, 2011

Being in a Toastmaster club for the past 6 years, I've learned that you need to use something to catch someone's attention, to draw them in, to focus their attention on you. That is a Hooker. A hook may or may not hold if the line that you are feeding them is weak.

You must cast a message in such a way that you attract with their interests. If they don't swallow your hook then you will lose your audience. The bible is a rich feeding ground in topics that you could easily troll and find a bait that someone would be tempted to bite. Some of the topics that one could start off a conversation and then turn the conversation into how one needs to be saved are:

- Science

What does the bible speak on in science? Pick a topic below and speak on how the bible spoke of it first and now it's confirmed by science. If the Bible is accurate from a science point of view then it must be right from a salvation point of view.

Science Confirms the Bible

THE BIBLE <i>(2,000–3,000 years ago)</i>	SCIENCE THEN	SCIENCE NOW
The earth is a sphere (Isaiah 40:22).	The earth was a flat disk.	The earth is a sphere.
Innumerable stars (Jeremiah 33:22).	Only 1,100 stars.	Innumerable stars.
Free float of earth in space (Job 26:7).	Earth sat on a large animal.	Free float of earth in space.
Creation made of invisible elements (Hebrews 11:3).	Science was ignorant on the subject.	Creation made of invisible elements (atoms).
Each star is different (1 Corinthians 15:41).	All stars were the same.	Each star is different.
Light moves (Job 38:19,20).	Light was fixed in place.	Light moves.
Air has weight (Job 28:25).	Air was weightless.	Air has weight.
Winds blow in cyclones (Ecclesiastes 1:6).	Winds blew straight.	Winds blow in cyclones.
Blood is the source of life and health (Leviticus 17:11).	Sick people must be bled.	Blood is the source of life and health.
Ocean floor contains deep valleys and mountains (2 Samuel 22:16; Jonah 2:6).	The ocean floor was flat.	Ocean floor contains deep valleys and mountains.
Ocean contains springs (Job 38:16).	Ocean fed only by rivers and rain.	Ocean contains springs.
When dealing with disease, hands should be washed under running water (Leviticus 15:13).	Hands washed in still water.	When dealing with disease, hands should be washed under running water.

Pasted from <<http://www.livingwaters.com/witnessingtool/scienceconfirmssthebible.shtml>>

- History

The bible is a history book. Genesis to Nehemiah and Matthew to Acts are historical books (all the books are historical but these 21 books are more written in a history like way). One can look up names, dates, places, events and find out that those people were alive and did those acts at that place.

- Emotional

Loss, suffering, Love, endurance all are in the Bible. Who can deny the love of the Father to us that He sent Jesus to die instead for us. You can speak of the suffering that Jesus went thru, the spitting the hitting, the lashes on his back that ripped chunks of his flesh off, blood oozing, squirting from his body (Is 53:5) how he had to endure the rejection of the people that he was dying for. The 6 hours of hanging on the cross in intense agony for committing no crime. That is a truly emotional connection viewpoint.

- Astronomy

The bible was written long time ago so it wouldn't have any astronomy type of items in the bible right? If a previous study (2 Calendars of the Bible: 2 confusing or 2 simple) I showed how you could prove the year Jesus was born (year 0) based on Astronomy and the events in the bible Some of the stars mentioned in the Old Testament:

- *Kimah*, the Pleiades;
- the *Kesil*, Orion;
- *Ash*, or *Ayish*, the Hyades;
- *Mezarim*, the Bears (Great and Little);
- *Mazzaroth*, Venus (Lucifer and Hesperus);
- *Hadre theman* — "the chambers of the south" — Canopus, the Southern Cross, and a Centauri;
- *Nachash*, Draco.

Pasted from <<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/02029a.htm>>

- Farming

How do you raise a garden and raise livestock. The bible has many verses that speak on proper animal ratio of male and female (Gen 32:14-15), Orchard management (Lev 19:23-25), Keeping the genetics strong (Lev 19:19), How to plant seeds (Dt 22:9) and how to treat poor performance of trees (Lk 13:8-9) If Jesus cares about plants & animals then He cares much more on tending to one of his sheep (Mt 6:26-32) and how to become one of Jesus' sheep in his sheep pen.

- Legal

If someone is of the legal persuasion then speaking about the law written down by Moses from God and how it's pertinent now days could be the opening conversation. Knowing Exodus 20-23, Leviticus 11-27, Deuteronomy 4-8 and how the non-sacrificial sections of the law is applicable now days would be a great topic A good starter is on theft. The bible says that if you are caught stealing you have to repay 5 times the damage (Ex 22:1). If you refuse then you could sold into slavery until the debt is paid off (Ex 22:1). Murders, rapist, kidnappers are all quickly put to death (Num 35:16-17), not 30, 40, 50 years down the road.

- Prophecy

If they are into prophecy then the bible is the book for them. Most want to know about the end times which there are numerous books (ie Revelation) and chapters (ie Matthew 24) and passages that can connect with the world today. That could be your springboard for a talk about how to save yourself from the wrath to come by doing what Jesus told you to do to be saved.

- Far out of the box

For those on the fringe, that likes sci-fi then the bible has a in for that angle as well. In Genesis (Gen 6:2-4) it speaks of the sons of God married the daughters of man and produced giants. Referring to the book of Enoch, it has a more detail explanation of that Genesis passage. An alien invasion (fallen angels) from another dimension (the spiritual realm) came down to earth and mated with women. Their offspring created giants that became cannibals. God was furious and imprisoned the fallen angels and wiped out the giant race. Since the giants were part man and part angel the flesh part died but the spirit part was alive and these became the demons that torment men to this day (Enoch 15:7-12).

- Conspiracy

The setup of Jesus could be another discussion. Jesus lived a sinless life (1 Pt 2:22) yet there were forces that were determined to kill him (Jn 8:40). These forces falsely arrested Him (Mt 26:47-50), set up false witnesses to testify against Him (Mt 26:59), broke all the court laws in order to convict Him. Once they convicted Him they took Him to a higher court (Romans) and put the political squeeze on Pilate to release Barabbas and sentence Jesus to death (Lk 23:16-25). After Jesus' death these same forces killed many of the Apostles and persecuted Jesus followers (Acts 9:1-4).

These forces are still in play as you can see there are forces out there suing and protesting and are not stopping in trying to remove Jesus' name or the cross or any other related symbols from all Government, schools, TV, radio, commencement... activities.

- Archeology

Sodom and Gomorrah and the city of Jericho didn't exist many people claimed however archeologist flipping shovels found those cities. Many towns that were once thought of only in the bible have now been found. Comparing the accuracy of the bible using archeology could be used as showing the validity of the rest of the bible which means do what Jesus says to do and don't do what Jesus says not to do.

Example: The Assyrian tablets describe the 10 Northern tribes exile in Assyria when they were taken out of the land of Israel.

- Military

The US is in a midst of multiple wars: Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya. We are stirring the pot in Iran and had a helping hand in Egypt so those pumping their fists for war should read from the time the Israelites leaving Egypt to the conquering of the nation of Israel (10 northern tribes) by the Assyrians and the conquering on the nation of Judah (2 southern tribes) by the Babylonians. There were massive armies numbering in the hundreds of thousands (185,000 came against Jerusalem alone). You can tie it in with Jesus will protect you against the hordes invading if you are covered under his wings. In the 185,000 army example, the angel of the Lord came down and killed all of them in one night.

- Health

The bible describes how to be healthy so a person interested in good health & nutrition would be interested in this topic. Things like what foods to eat and not to eat (Lev 11:1-47) and how those foods still are not good to eat. Take a pig for instance. Pig's meat may contain worms which if eaten could produce triconosis or other diseases that could be fatal. A pig is a pig, hasn't changed since Jesus was resurrected.

- Economics

How does one become wealthy? Most people want to hear that subject and the bible speaks about this. Tithing (Mal 3:8-10) Lending (Prov 19:17) not taking loans (Prov 22:7), Don't counter sign a note for anyone (Prov 22:26), counting the cost before starting a project (Lk 14:28) and others. If the bible speaks on how to save money then you can tie that to a talk that the bible speaks on how to save your soul from the lake of fire.

- Child rearing

How should you raise your child? Many parents vacillate from being strict (punishment) to being understanding (Dr Spock). The bible speaks in Proverbs how to raise a child so that he/she would be a blessing to the mother and father (what parent wouldn't want that!). The bible speaks on how to correct (Prov 23:13-14, Prov 13:24) how to do it (Eph 6:4, Col 3:20-21) when to train (Dt 6:7)

There are many other topics (Music, Afflictions, Government, Paleontology, sexuality, love, hate, marriage, divorce, witchcraft...) which if one puts their mind to it could think up a way to begin a conversation and then lead them to discussions on salvation and what one needs to do (Acts 2:38)

In a war you use overwhelming force against an opponent. This opponent is the satanic spirit holding the person in bondage (Mt 12:30). The only way to fight an adversary is to use a power greater than what the adversary has.

This is two weapons: prayer power and prayer amplification.

First is prayer power: praying that Jesus goes before you and guides you to the persons that he wants to save and that he goes and:

- takes their blinders off their eyes (Is 42:7)
- unstops their ears (Ps 40:6)
- changes their hearts (Ps 51:10)
- renews their spirits (Ps 51:10)
- grants the ability to repent (2 Tim 2:25, Acts 5:31)
- plants hedge of protection (Job 1:10)
- sends helping angels (Ps 34:7)
- bind the forces of Hell and loosen the armies of Jesus (Mt 18:18)

Next is prayer amplification. You may not (Ecc 4:12) or may (James 4:7) be able to withstand the devil by yourself - depends on your endurance and fighting power but once you team up with multiple Christians your ability to repel and go on the offence is phenomenal (Dt 32:30).

All comes down to you picking up the bible and reading it so that when the time is right that you will be able to preach and teach the gospel so as to lead them to salvation.

Once you get a bite on the hook ie the bobber goes down in the water such as a head nod, facial expression (eye brow raise, shine in the eyes...), accepting body language, voice confirmation then it's time to test the tension.

If the bite was a strong one (strong feedback) then pull hard on the string and reel in the person.

A strong response may not mean the hook is properly set and the pull in of the line may loosen or yank out the hook. If the hook loosens then let out some slack, be patient and try pulling in a bit slower.

If the bite was soft then let out a little slack, be patient, feed them a little more and wait until the line is taut then reel them in.

Don't be discouraged if you are not 100% successful. Jesus wasn't 100% successful since Judas left and betrayed Him.

Thomas Edison attempted over 6,000 times before he perfected the filament for the light bulb.

If the fish doesn't take the hook or the hook comes free of the fish then you may try casting the line back at the specific fish, target a group of fish, or cast the hook to an area where you know fish are likely to visit.

Just as in fishing, one hook and bait isn't universal for all fishes. Many times you have to try different lures before you find the right one for a specific fish.

It would be a blessing that each hook that you cast will land a fish but that is not a reality. Consider using a trout line. Plant ideas into the minds of people. Those ideas will begin to grow and another will pull the fish in (Jn 4:37-38)

Some fishes are impossible to get a hook in. In this case just pack up your tackle box and move to a different spot where fish are biting (Mk 6:11)

Some possible ways to soften the stiff necks is to get the Word of God into their minds by any means possible. Some include:

- letting them borrow a word for word bible movies such as: The gospel of John, Matthew, Acts of the Apostles.
- letting them borrow Christian themed movies (containing repentance, believing [I haven't seen one with baptism but 2 of 3 is better than none]) such as: Time Changer, Fireproof, Facing the Giants, Flywheel, Faith like Potatoes, Book of Ruth...
- giving CDs with the bible on it (audio or mp3 versions)
- booklets covering various topics that are brought up
- music CD containing songs dealing with belief, repentance, baptism, salvation, Jesus
- drop off pamphlets/business cards with bible truths
- bibles if they don't have one (electronic or paper)
- create your own bible studies to teach yourself, your family and send to others
- tie in a ordinary conversation biblical events that tie into what is being spoken about.

The main thrust is to put on your hip waders and get into the water and start casting hooks out. If you don't even bother to cast out a hook, what will your fate be when you are standing in front of Jesus at judgment day? (Mt 7:22-23),

We should be always at work spreading the gospel (Jn 5:17) lest you be found asleep (Lk 12:37)

Regards,

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Called/Chosen + Hear + Believe + Repent + Confess + Baptize + Abide = Salvation -> Proclaim
Mt22:14 + Lk11:28 + Jn3:16 + Mk6:12 + Rm10:9 + Acts2:38 + Heb10:26 = 1 Pt 3:21 -> Mt28:19-20

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

ASV Isaiah 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

ASV Genesis 32:14-15

14 two hundred she-goats and twenty he-goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams,

15 thirty milch camels and their colts, forty cows and ten bulls, twenty she-asses and ten foals.

ASV Leviticus 19:23-25

23 And when ye shall come into the land, and shall have planted all manner of trees for food, then ye shall count the fruit thereof as their uncircumcision: three years shall they be as uncircumcised unto you; it shall not be eaten.

24 But in the fourth year all the fruit thereof shall be holy, for giving praise unto Jehovah.

25 And in the fifth year shall ye eat of the fruit thereof, that it may yield unto you the increase thereof: I am Jehovah your God.

ASV Leviticus 19:19 Ye shall keep my statutes: Thou shalt not let thy cattle gender with a diverse kind: thou shalt not sow thy field with two kinds of seed: neither shall there come upon thee a garment of two kinds of stuff mingled together.

ASV Deuteronomy 22:9 Thou shalt not sow thy vineyard with two kinds of seed, lest the whole fruit be forfeited, the seed which thou hast sown, and the increase of the vineyard.

RSV Luke 13:8-9

8 And he answered him, 'Let it alone, sir, this year also, till I dig about it and put on manure.

9 And if it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

ASV Matthew 6:26-32

26 Behold the birds of the heaven, that they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; and your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are not ye of much more value than they?

27 And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit unto the measure of his life?

28 And why are ye anxious concerning raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

29 yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30 But if God doth so clothe the grass of the field, which to-day is, and to-morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

31 Be not therefore anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 For after all these things do the Gentiles seek; for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

RSV Exodus 22:1 "IF A man steals an ox or a sheep, and kills it or sells it, he shall pay five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep. He shall make restitution; if he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft.

RSV Numbers 35:16-17

16 "But if he struck him down with an instrument of iron, so that he died, he is a murderer; the murderer shall be put to death.

17 And if he struck him down with a stone in the hand, by which a man may die, and he died, **he is a murderer; the murderer shall be put to death.**

RSV Genesis 6:2-4

2 the **sons of God saw that the daughters of men were fair; and they took to wife** such of them as they chose.

3 Then the Lord said, "My spirit shall not abide in man for ever, for he is flesh, but his days shall be a hundred and twenty years."

4 The **Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men that were of old,** the men of renown.

Enoch 15:7-12

7 spiritual, living the eternal life, and immortal for all generations of the world. And therefore I have not appointed wives for you; for as for the spiritual ones of the heaven, in heaven is their dwelling.

8 And now, the giants, who are produced from the spirits and flesh, shall be called evil spirits upon

9 the earth, and on the earth shall be their dwelling. **Evil spirits have proceeded from their bodies;** because they are born from men and from the holy Watchers is their beginning and primal origin;

10 they shall be evil spirits on earth, and evil spirits shall they be called. [As for the spirits of heaven, in heaven shall be their dwelling, but as for the spirits of the earth which were born upon the earth, on the earth shall be their dwelling.]

11 And the spirits of the giants afflict, oppress, destroy, attack, do battle, and work destruction on the earth, and cause trouble: they take no food, but nevertheless

12 hunger and thirst, and cause offences. And **these spirits shall rise up against the children of men and against the women, because they have proceeded from them.**

RSV John 8:40 but **now you seek to kill me,** a man who has told you the truth which I heard from God; this is not what Abraham did.

RSV 1 Peter 2:22 **He committed no sin;** no guile was found on his lips.

RSV Matthew 26:47-50

47 While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people.

48 Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I shall kiss is the man; seize him."

49 And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Hail, Master!" And he kissed him.

50 Jesus said to him, "Friend, why are you here?" Then **they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him.**

RSV Matthew 26:59 Now the chief priests and **the whole council sought false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death,**

RSV Luke 23:16-26

16 I will therefore chastise him and release him."

17 But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas"--

18 a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city, and for murder.

19 Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus;

20 but they shouted out, "Crucify, crucify him!"

21 A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no crime deserving death; I will therefore chastise him and release him."

22 **But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed.**

23 So Pilate gave sentence that their demand should be granted.

24 He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, whom they asked for; but Jesus he delivered up to their will.

25 And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.

26 And there followed him a great multitude of the people, and of women who bewailed and lamented him.

RSV Malachi 3:8-10

8 Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How are we robbing thee?' In your tithes and offerings.

9 You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me; the whole nation of you.

10 Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

RSV Proverbs 19:17 He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

RSV Proverbs 22:7 The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.

RSV Proverbs 22:26 Be not one of those who give pledges, who become surety for debts.

RSV Luke 14:28 For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?

RSV Proverbs 23:13-14

13 Do not withhold discipline from a child; if you beat him with a rod, he will not die.

14 If you beat him with the rod you will save his life from Sheol.

RSV Proverbs 13:24 He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.

RSV Ephesians 6:4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

RSV Colossians 3:20-21

20 Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

21 Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

RSV Deuteronomy 6:7 and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

RSV Matthew 12:30 He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me scatters.

RSV Isaiah 42:7 to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

RSV Psalms 40:6 Sacrifice and offering thou dost not desire; but thou hast given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering thou hast not required.

RSV Psalms 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

RSV 2 Timothy 2:25 correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant that they will repent and come to know the truth,

RSV Acts 5:31 God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

RSV Job 1:10 Hast thou not put a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.

RSV Psalms 34:7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

RSV Matthew 18:18 Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

LVB Ecclesiastes 4:12 And one standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer; three is even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

LVB James 4:7 So give yourselves humbly to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

RSV Ecclesiastes 4:12 And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

RSV James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

RSV Deuteronomy 32:30 How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, unless their Rock had sold them, and the Lord had given them up?

RSV John 4:37-38

37 For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.'

38 I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

RSV Mark 6:11 And if any place will not receive you and they refuse to hear you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet for a testimony against them."

RSV John 5:17 But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working still, and I am working."

RSV Luke 12:37 Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes; truly, I say to you, he will gird himself and have them sit at table, and he will come and serve them.