

Enticed, hooked and led astray

I haven't been fishing in many years. Some girl friends and I would like to try it sometime in the spring. I am told by the real fishermen that there are three important areas to consider. They are: where we will fish, the time of year and weather, and the lure and bait we use. These areas will help us to entice the fish, get them to take the baited hook, and bring home a nice catch.

Fishermen use different types of bait based on what they are fishing for. Live worms, grubs, minnows, insects, and artificial ones. These decoy lures are added to get the fish curious, enticing them to come and check it out. These lures may make sounds, be very colorful and shiny, have feathers, and maybe even vibrate or wobble. Using the artificial lures allows one to reuse that decoy time after time.

As a Bible teacher, I recognized a similarity to using



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bait/lures to tempt the fish and Satan using bait to tempt us away from our course. The devil transforms himself as 2 Corinthians 11:14 says an angel of light. There are times when we are weak and weary and can be persuaded by his trickery and false promises to make poor choices and be distracted from our calling. 1 John 2:16 says that in this world we fall into temptation by

the lust of our flesh, our eyes, and our pride. James reminds us that God does not tempt us, but we are drawn away by our own desires and enticed, so don't be deceived (James 1:14,16). Satan opens his tackle box and casts his fishing lines at our mind, heart, and eyes with lies and attractive imitations. When we have hit rock bottom, Satan adds a sinker to the line and offers drugs and alcohol to ease grief, pain, and depression. He dangles get-rich-quick schemes when we need

money, and divorce when we want change. He leads us to the wrong crowd of people, and we do things we know are not Godly just to fill our loneliness.

We read in scripture that Joseph ran from the temptations of Potiphar's wife (Genesis 39:10-18). James 4:7, "Submit yourself therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." Even though Joseph was thrown in prison for a time, God was with him and he became second in command to the Pharaoh. Samson on the other hand allowed his lusts for Delilah to lead him astray and the consequences resulted in his hair cut and the removal of his eyes (Judges 16:4-21). 1 Peter 5:6-8 exhorts us to stay humble, cast our cares on the Lord because He cares, and to stay sober and vigilant. Why? Because our enemy and adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, prowls around seeking whom he may devour. And if you are living for the Lord, he pretends to fulfill whatever your needs are only to

kill, steal, and destroy your calling, testimony, and make you ineffective (John 10:10). When we open ourselves to the enticements, Satan will use them over and over like the artificial fishing lures fishermen use and strike; we are hooked.

James 1:12 is our encouragement, "Blessed is the man that endures temptation (flees from it) for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to them that love Him." We need to be like Jesus when He was tempted in the wilderness: use the Word of God. Verse 4:8 tells us to draw near to God and He will draw near to us, cleanse our hands and purify our hearts, not be double minded. Paul gives us the armor of God in Ephesians 6 to use against the fiery darts of Satan and save us from being enticed, hooked, and led astray. Get hooked on Jesus!

Denise Barrett serves as a devotional writer, Bible teacher, speaker, and Gathering Grace CWM volunteer.

Go — do likewise!

Christian, what are we supposed to do after Jesus saves us? The answer is found in Luke 10:25-42. Jesus says we are to represent Him, we are to be a good neighbor, and we are to worship our Heavenly Father. And Jesus concludes by saying, "Go and do likewise."

The Samaritan's deed of mercy has inspired people all over the world. The Good Samaritan is probably the best known story from the Bible. Some



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critics have called it "the greatest story ever told."

What are we to be doing as Christians? Jesus says we are to be ambassadors for Him. He sent His disciples out with His message.

Then He said we were to be good neighbors, and look for opportunities to show mercy in His name. That is the example of the Good Samaritan.

He concludes by saying that we are to "sit at the feet" of Jesus as did Mary.

We are to listen to His words and commune with Him.

Ambassador, neighbor, and worshipper. There is your answer of what we are to be doing in the world.

First, Jesus sent His disciples to represent Him before the world. "As the Father hath sent me, even so sent I you" (John 20:21). Wherever we are, we are to represent our Lord. What an honor and privilege to represent the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords!

Second, Jesus says we are to be a good neighbor; He shows us this in the Good

Samaritan. Look around you. Do you see someone who needs help? That's your neighbor. Jesus says, "Go and do likewise."

Jesus concludes by saying we are to be worshippers of God. Worship is at the heart of all we do. Before we can be an ambassador for Him or a good neighbor, we must sit "at the feet" of Jesus and learn from Him. Jesus said, "For without Me you can do nothing" (John 15:5).

May God bless you as you serve Him. May you have a wonderful week doing the will of God!

Saint Peter and the Pearly Gates

God created Saint Peter and us, for Himself alone. Jesus wants our one goal, our one supreme and eternal goal, to be grace and glory forever. As Saint Eymard wrote, "Jesus might bestow upon us the merit and happiness of knowing Him, loving Him, and serving Him in this world as my sovereign Lord, as the God of my Heart and



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of possessing Him hereafter as the God of glory."

Right after Jesus' resurrection, He told Peter to "follow Me." I am sure if Jesus had said this to you or me right after Jesus had died and rose from the dead, all kinds of questions would come flooding into our minds. Peter, being just like us, had to receive the Holy

Spirit to fully understand all that Jesus meant. Pentecost would accomplish this and also be a guide to Peter as he and the apostles set out to tell the world of what God has done for us.

To possess the knowledge that there is an active God in our lives is truly a gift. Have you thought about this? Many people around us go about their lives and never truly give a thought about the existence of a creator who

truly cares about us, that there is an eternity, and we will be judged on our deeds as the Bible says many times. Through words of encouragement, living our lives in a holy manner, and prayer, we can help Peter and the apostles build the Catholic Church. Let's work on that, so when Saint Peter greets us at the pearly gates, they are hanging wide open! Jesus, Mary, Saint Joseph. dale54@live.com

WEEK

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through regular reporting.

SB 73 expands Kentucky's home-based processor law to allow small producers to make and sell talow-based cosmetic products, such as soaps and balms. The bill supports local entrepreneurship while maintaining existing health and safety standards.

SB 102 helps Kentucky State Police retain experienced officers by allowing certain retired troopers who previously returned to service on contract to reapply within a defined time frame. The change reduces train-

ing costs and strengthens public safety.

SB 18 modernizes Kentucky's podiatry laws by updating licensing and supervision standards and clarifying regulatory authority. The bill creates a more consistent and up-to-date framework for podiatric practice across the Commonwealth.

SB 132 gives local governments clearer authority to regulate massage therapy businesses and increases penalties for operating without a license. The measure is aimed at improving public safety and enforcement at the local level.

BUDGET UPDATE

The House of Representa-

tives has not yet finalized or delivered its budget proposal to the Senate. While a placeholder bill has been filed, it must still complete the House process before the Senate can formally begin its review. In the meantime, the Senate has begun examining background materials and preparing for the detailed comparisons and discussions that lie ahead. I will continue to keep you informed as budget work moves forward in the coming weeks.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you. I look forward to keeping you updated as the work of the 2026 Regular Session continues. If you have questions or

ideas, feel free to contact my office at 502-564-8100 or email me at Stephen.Meredith@kylegislature.gov. You can learn more about bills, committees, and other updates from the Kentucky General Assembly at www.legislature.ky.gov.

Sen. Stephen Meredith, R-Leitchfield, represents the 5th Senate District, encompassing Breckinridge, Butler, Grayson, Ohio, and Meade counties. Meredith serves as chair of the Senate Health Services Committee and co-chair of the Government Contract Review Committee. He is also a member of the Senate Committees on Education; Families and Children; and Veterans, Military Affairs, and Public Protection.

CAREER

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maintenance and team building to computer skills and continuing education for licensed professionals, our team is prepared to support and strengthen the local workforce.

One standout opportunity is the Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship, which is available to Kentucky residents who do not already possess an associate degree or higher. This scholarship

enables eligible students to earn up to 60 credit hours tuition-free in high-demand career fields.

CTE opportunities are also a major focus of regional workforce development organizations, including Career TEAM, the Direct Service Provider for the Kentucky Career Center - Lincoln Trail. According to Kristin Reed, executive director for Career TEAM in the Lincoln Trail region, the team utilizes various tools, including CareerEDGE, TransfrVR and labor market information, to connect

clients to the most suitable career path for their individual needs.

Career Advisors work with clients to determine that path using their unique skills and interests. The program can provide career guidance, tuition assistance, as well as work experience opportunities and job-related needs assistance for individuals under 25. In the process, the team utilizes Kentucky Career Center partnerships and connections to help clients find employment opportunities after they complete their training.

The touch that transforms

Matthew 8:1, When he was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him.

2 And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

3 And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

4 And Jesus saith unto him, see thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

Seven times in the book of Matthew, Jesus came to people with sickness, or infirmities, and healed them with a touch. The people who witnessed the touch of Jesus would find it impossible to deny the Deity of Christ. However, although Jesus was Divine, he was also in a human form. The verses show the importance of the God Touch, but also the need for the human touch.

Although Jesus had the power to simply speak a word and command illness to leave, He often chose a more hands-on approach.

In the case of the leper in today's passage, Jesus' personal touch must have been something the man rarely experienced, since he was considered untouchable. In fact, that may be why Jesus chose this avenue of healing.

The need for a touch from a fellow human

being has not disappeared in the 2,000 years since Jesus walked on the earth. We live in a world dominated by social

media and technology — we are now more isolated from other people than ever before. Physical contact is being replaced with "likes" on Facebook. And when we do think of touch, it's often associated with scandal, impropriety, or immorality. How did this wonderful word become so maligned?

As Christians, we have an opportunity to "touch" people in a variety of ways, including by our words — for example, the proclamation of salvation through Jesus Christ can transform a person's life and eternal destiny. However, ministry is also accomplished with our hands through service, compassion, and the encouragement of a hug or loving pat on the shoulder.

Our heart, mouth, and hands must be cooperating in order to fully minister in Jesus' name. And whether alone or gathered with others, we have the privilege of touching lives through prayer. Jesus touched people both physically and spiritually, and as His followers, we must do likewise. Look for opportunities in which God might use you for His glory.



LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
46TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GRAYSON CIRCUIT COURT
DIVISION I

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 26-CI-00039

LEGAL NOTICE TO DEFENDANT

DAVID BYRNE, ET AL, PLAINTIFF
VS.
UNKNOWN CLAIMANT,
Their successors, heirs, devisees
Personal representatives, assigns
and spouses Who claim any interest
in the subject matter of this action, DEFENDANT

A civil action for quiet title of real property has been filed with regards to the property hereinafter described, as follows:

0.694 Acres

A certain parcel of land in Kentucky lying in Grayson County approx. 5 miles northwest of the city of Leitchfield more particularly described as follows: Unless stated otherwise, any monument referred to herein as an iron pin set is a 1/2" rebar 18" in length with plastic cap stamped "DAVIDSON PLS 4145". Any monument referred to herein as a "Mag Nail Set" is a 1.5" Mag Nail with Metal Tag Stamped "PLS 4145". All tree monuments have three hack marks. All bearings and coordinates are based on Kentucky Single Zone Coordinate System by GPS, using Geod 2018. All distances are grid distances. Beginning at a 1" x 1" T bar found (slightly disturbed) in the northwest right of way of Thomason Cemetery Road (30' Right of way as per Plat Cabinet 1, Slide 235), a corner to Randall Lee Jr. & Angela Bradley (Deed Book 508, Page, 146, Plat Cab 2, Slide 422, Lot 12) and David Byrne & Rita Byrne (Deed Book 402, Page, 301), also lying approx. S 11°15' E 305' from the centerline intersection of Thomason Cemetery Road and Topper Road. Thence with David Byrne & Rita Byrne (Deed Book 402, Page, 301) for 2 calls N 25°09'03" E, 921.33' to an iron pin set; N 09°31'39" E, 82.20' to an iron pin set; thence crossing said right of way for 1 call S 80°28'21" E, 30.00' to an iron pin found (1/2" rebar) a corner to John T. Smith (Deed Book 376, Page, 296, Plat Cab 2, Slide 510, Lot 1K) and David Byrne & Rita Byrne (Deed Book 402, Page, 301, Deed Book 535, Page, 565); thence with David Byrne & Rita Byrne (Deed Book 402, Page, 301, Deed Book 535, Page, 565) for 2 calls S 09°31'39" W, 86.32' to an iron pin set; S 05°09'03" W, 925.45' to an iron pin set; thence crossing said right of way N 64°50'57" W, 30.00', to the point of beginning, having an area of 30229.50 square feet, 0.694 acres according to this survey performed by Davidson Land Surveying, 270-202-2236, claydavidsonpls@gmail.com, William Clay Davidson (PLS No. 4145, issued May 20, 2016). Dated: 1/20/2025, Job No. 24-109. Source of Title: A portion of a 30' right of way of Panorama Shores Subdivision Plat recorded in Plat Cabinet 1, Slide 235. BEING the same property acquired by the Grantors by adverse possession, said possession has been hostile, actual, open and notorious, exclusive, continuous and uninterrupted, and under the claim of right for a period beginning in 2002, through their predecessor landowners, claiming to own the same in fee against the world and that this adverse possession is evidenced by the Grantors, and their predecessor land owners, dominion over the property, keeping the property mowed and neat, placing structures on and across the property, and having prevented any trespassing by any other parties upon said property.

On December 5, 2025 the court appointed Zachary Craddock-Vocke, Goff & Goff Attorneys, P.S.C., as Warning Order Attorney, to notify the Unknown Claimants, of the filing and pendency of this civil action. The said Zachary Craddock-Vocke is required to file a report to the court within 50 days of said date.

If you contend you may have a claim to, or an interest in, the above-described real property, notify the Grayson Circuit Court Clerk, at 270-259-9631, or me at the telephone number or address below or file a pleading in the Grayson Circuit Court Clerk's Office asserting any claim or interest you may have as to said property or you may lose any right you may have to do make a claim.

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