FISH STORIES

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 4:1-5

Introduction:
1. Overview of VBS theme.
2. Great importance must be placed in preaching the word of God!
3. In this lesson we will observe where the power of preaching is found...

I. POWER IS IN JESUS
   A. JESUS FED THE FIVE-THOUSAND -Jn 6:1-15
      1. This identified Him as the Prophet of God
         a. Compared to Elijah -1Ki 17:8-16
         b. Compared to Elisha -2Ki 4:1-7; 42-44
      2. The people wanted to make Him king -Jn 6:15
   
   B. CAST YOUR NETS ON THE OTHER SIDE -Lk 5:1-11
      1. At the word of Jesus a great catch was made!
      2. Jesus would make them fishers of men -Mt 4:19
         a. When they follow Jesus they would convert many
         b. E.g. The day of Pentecost -Ac 2

II. POWER IS IN EXAMPLE
   A. JESUS PAID THE TEMPLE TAX -Mt 17:24-27
      1. Jesus did not have to pay the tax for He is the Son of God
      2. He did so it would not hinder His ministry.
   
   B. OUR EXAMPLE BEFORE THE WORLD
      1. Submission to the government -Ro 13:1-ff
      2. Not eating meat offered to idols -Ro 14:14-23; 1Co 8:1-13

III. POWER IS IN THE WORD
   A. THE PREACHING OF JONAH
      1. He did not want to preach to Nineveh
      2. The people, however did repent at his preaching
      3. This shows the power of preaching is in the message, not the messenger!
   
   B. PREACHING TODAY
      1. Power is in the gospel -Ro 1:16
      2. Power is in the word -Lk 8:11
      3. Power is of God -1Co 3:6, 7; 4:7

Conclusion:
1. There are many lost souls who need a Savior!
2. Through preaching, teaching, and setting the right example we can be fishers of men!

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