

# ***FISHING LICENSE***

No. 00000000000030AD

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Write Your Name Here)

Issued this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the

year of our Lord \_\_\_\_\_

(Write the date you obeyed the gospel)

Expiration Date: **Judgment Day**

Fishing Area: All of God's Oceans, Lakes, Rivers, Ponds, and Streams

(Go into all the world" Mark 16:15)

FEE: Self ("let him deny himself," Luke 9:23)

"Then Jesus said to them, *'Follow Me and I will make you to become fishers of men'*" (Mark 1:17)

"And Jesus said to Simon, *'Do not be afraid; from now on you will catch men'*" (Luke 5:10).

Issuing Officer: **Our Lord Jesus Christ**

# **Love One Another**

The other day I overheard someone talking about how they love to buy things online. They even observed that as soon as the drone delivery system is perfected, they won't have to interact with the UPS delivery person.

It seems more and more stores are moving in this direction. Have you noticed that people in our society are becoming increasingly isolated from each other? You no longer have to go to the department stores; you just order what you want online. You don't have to talk to anyone when you go to the grocery store; with self-checkout lanes, you don't even have to talk to the cashier. From drive-through windows to internet shopping, it's all designed to make our lives easier; but it's also taking away our interaction with each other.

Unfortunately, many of us take this same attitude and apply it to the church. We slip in at the last moment, speaking to as few people as possible. We find a pew that will allow a quick get-away, and as soon as the last prayer is over, we make our dash to the car.

I heard a quote which seems to capture the attitude of many: "To live above with those we love – now that will be grace and glory. To live below with those we know – now that's a different story!"

Although this lifestyle might sound appealing to many of us, it is not how we are called to live. One of the greatest commands we are given is to love one another. How can we do that if we refuse to interact with one another? How can our good works be a light to the world if we refuse to let the world see them?

One of our purposes for gathering together is to encourage each other; but how can we do that without talking to, or interacting with, one another?

Even though it is not always convenient and may mean stepping out of our comfort zones, we need to slow down and share our lives with others. Talk to the cashier at the grocery store. Don't work on slipping out of church services so quickly.

Let's make every effort to love one another and to let our lives be a light to those we meet!

--Luke Bower (Abilene, TX); via *Old Paths*

() () () () () () () ()

## **Why So Little Evangelism?**

*A desire to spread the gospel and a celebration of religious diversity are diametrically opposed. They cannot coexist in the same heart.*

*Evangelistic zeal will continue to decrease as the church becomes more and more convinced by a pluralistic culture that religious diversity ought to be celebrated. This is a trend that must be stopped by the preaching of the gospel.*

*Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him.*

--Wes McAdams (Plano, TX) – via Facebook