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*Luke Ch5 Vs4 "Now when he, Jesus, had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught."*

## A Summer of Fishing?

Over the summer we had the opportunity to go to the lakes of Fermanagh and cast a few lines into the water; but just like Peter we could say "we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing." Praise God that when it comes to being a fisher of men it's the word of God and our obedience to Him that is effective not our own abilities. Denis Lyle commenting on fishers of men says "I think it is quite significant that Andrew brought Peter to Jesus after spending time with Jesus Christ. Andrew had never been to a Bible college nor had he been given instructions on how to engage in evangelism. Yet he instinctively went to share Jesus Christ with others. I am sure that spending time with the Lord Jesus was the secret of his zeal to bring others to Christ. That is still the key to a genuine and deep concern for others. Take time to enjoy fresh fellowship with the master every day so that your heart may be filled with His compassion for others." Taken from 'Sifted to Serve' by Denis Lyle



45 Children attended the Junior Camp at Killeel

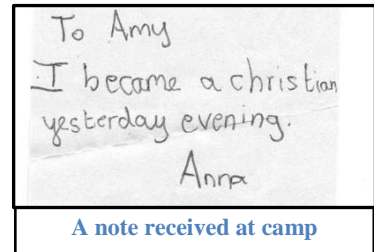
We had another summer of launching out into the deep, and letting down our nets, as we sought to catch men alive by proclaiming the word of God on every occasion to the children.

In the 5 Day Clubs we baited our lines with a wonderful series of lessons entitled "A Saviour for You" telling the children, through the course of the week, the wonderful life story of the Lord Jesus Christ. In a number of clubs we battled rain, wind, no children, lack of helpers and a broken down car but the Lord was blessing in spite of our

frustrations. What a week in Keady! More children and teenagers reached there than ever with about 30 young people coming through both clubs. We tried a new club in Crossmore Green where we had a shaky start with a number of teenagers who came to mock us and a parent who said their children receive all their teaching in school and therefore would not be at club. But just as the Lord filled the fishermen's nets He too brought those teenagers, by the middle of the week, to sit on the grass and listen. Not only this but the three children who were forbidden, by their parents, to come where sitting on the kerb on Thursday listening to the lesson on the "Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ."

In Middletown we saw children run down the street to the club, because they were a little late, we heard the birds singing with us in unison as we sang "One Way", we had children coming to ask us for more Meet the King booklets to give to their brothers and sisters and at the end of the summer we heard that some of those children have been asking "can you come back to do more clubs?". Keep praying these clubs and lessons change lives: there's plenty of space in the nets.

Summer just wouldn't be summer without a week by the sea, in Kilkeel, with our volunteers and a group of children. This year we were overwhelmed by the response we had from 18 helpers who wanted to be fishers of men at junior camp. This group of shipmates worked really well together, had a love for the Lord and a desire to see children saved. I believe that the Lord really blessed this unity by giving opportunity to counsel 5 children for Salvation (Anna, Leah, Logan, Ben and Christopher) and another lad (Andrew)



A note received at camp

received assurance of Salvation from the Word of God. Throughout the week its very difficult to put your finger on the one thing that was really special; but for me this year on the Friday evening after 2 of our Leaders stood to share their testimonies with the group, through tears of compassion and hearts of rejoicing a further 9 children stood to their feet to share their testimonies. Those children testified when they got saved, shared precious verses and openly talked about the most difficult situations they came through with the help of the Lord. It was difficult to fight back the tears as we listened to children share about how they cope, with Gods help, the death of a parent; other children sharing about how they felt as their parents went through a divorce; the difficulties they have experienced over the past year in school since they got saved. Then to watch children comforting children, leaders comforting children and children comforting leaders – words cannot express the bonds that are forged within the group in the space of a week. Throughout the camp week the children heard teaching on the life of Daniel and learnt many important lessons but the one that I hope remains with them and our leaders throughout the year is from Daniel Ch1Vs8 “*But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself. . .*” Our desire for that group of 45 children is that they might bring glory unto God by their lives, actions and words and that only comes as we live out our lives for Him.

The Holiday Bible Clubs are far from a holiday, they take a lot of organising, preparation and hard work – Just like fishing. It was amazing this year again to see Ahorey Gospel Hall well filled with an average of 100 children each day to learn to be one of “God’s Special Agents.” The theme, this year, was all built around the idea of learning to share the Gospel with others. Obviously before you share anything you must understand it so we spent the main Bible teaching hour explaining,



A fleet of minibuses sitting in dock

memorising and testing the children’s knowledge (in a fun and exciting way) of the main points of the Gospel. By the end of the week these children had heard about God, Sin, the Lord Jesus Christ, what you must do to be saved and how to grow as a Christian. These lessons changed the lives of two young people who came to the club each day. We thought at the end of the week that we had toiled all week and caught nothing but later we heard that the Lord had graciously saved 2 children throughout the course of that week; He had them safely in the nets.

The same was true for the Holiday Bible Club in Ahorey Presbyterian Church (no more than half a mile up the hill from the Gospel Hall). A different group of 60 children came to be part of club and upon hearing the way of Salvation a Child turned from their sin and put their trust in the Lord. The Lord said to His disciples “*Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught*”, it was the Lord who gave the draught and He received the glory. In County Armagh, throughout the summer ministries, there have been at least 30 children saved by grace through faith. Praise the Lord for all that you have read and keep on praying throughout the winter fishing season.

Yours in His service,

Gareth, Lindsay and James Gwynne