

Oak Grove Church of Christ

(502) 749-9209

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 AM
Morning Worship: 10:30 AM
Evening Worship: 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Class: 7:30 PM

Evangelist: Bruce J. Dehut

*Home Bible Studies Available
Upon Request*

Oak Grove church of Christ
9203 Thixton Lane
Louisville, KY 40291



OAK GROVE ENCOURAGER

**"And let us consider one another in order to
stir up love and good works" Hebrews 10:24**

JUNE 18, 2006

Hard Sayings From The Lord

John 6:55-60 "For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. 56 "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him ...60 Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, "This is a hard saying; who can understand it?"

This was not the first or the last time that the statements of Jesus or His followers stymied the listener. The inquisitive minds that uttered the questions "This is a hard saying; who can understand it?" surely thought to themselves that Jesus was now propagating cannibalism and wanted no part of it. Some

of these same so-called disciples were quick to fill their bellies with the fish and loaves that Jesus had miraculously provided without question (John 6:1-14) and now they refused to have their understanding enlightened in regards to this "hard saying."

Critics of Christianity throughout time have reasoned in similar fashion to the balkers recorded in John 6, if we can't comprehend it with our human faculties then "*who can understand it?*" They thus conclude that a man with any intelligence about him would surely reject this statement of Jesus because if rationalized any other way they would have to relinquish their own alleged wisdom.

These same scoffers have immense difficulties with the idea of camel passing through the literal eye of a needle (*Mark 10:25*) or the concept that a person must be born again in order to enter the kingdom of God (*John 3:4-5*). But those of us with faith as a mustard seed conclude "*with men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible*" (*Mark 10:27*).

Don't allow mortal logic to keep you from immortality with God. Are you confused? Ask God. *James 1:5-6 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.* Open the words of the Spirit found within the pages of God's holy book and be prepared to listen and OBEY!

- Bruce J. Dehut

Knowing One or Being One

I know how to be honest,
I know how to be good,
But I'd rather not be virtuous,
And just tell you a falsehood.

I know of knights, mighty and strong,
From tales touting valor and bravery.
But my fears hinder and entrap me,
To the point of bondage and slavery.

I know how to discern good from evil,
And understand all about spirituality,
But a life of wickedness I lead,
Filled with sin and immorality.

I know how to work all the day long,
With sweat on my brow from hard labor.
But rather than exert too much energy,
I'll just borrow from my neighbor.

I know how to become a Christian,
Because God's plan is very clear,
But at the giving of the invitation,
I'll just sit motionless in the rear.

I know the way to heaven,
With it's streets of shiny gold.
But the business of the world,
Will occupy me 'til the time I'm old.

I know how to do many things,
That is certainly safe for me to say.
But knowing and doing something,
Are as different as night from day.

- Bruce J. Dehut

Fishermen?

- Author Unknown

Now it came to pass that a group existed that called themselves fishermen and there were many fish in the waters about them. In fact, the whole area was surrounded by streams and lakes and the fish were hungry. Week after week and month after month and year after year the group called themselves fishermen and met in meetings and talked about those called to fish, the abundance of fish, and how we might go about fishing. Year after year they carefully defined what fishing meant, defended fishing as an occupation, and declared that fishing be the primary talk of fishermen. These fishermen built large beautiful buildings for local fishing headquarters and their plea was that everyone should be a fisherman and that everyone should fish. However, the one thing they did not, they did not fish!

In addition to meeting regularly these men determined to send out fishermen to places where there were many fish. This sending committee was headed by those who had great vision and had courage to speak about fishing and to promote the idea of fishing in far away streams and lakes where many other fish of different colors lived. They hired staff and held many meetings to define fishing, to defend fishing, and to decide what new streams should be thought about. But the one thing the staff and the committee members did not do, they did not fish!

Large, elaborate training centers were built whose original and primary purpose was to teach fishermen how to fish. Over the

years courses were offered on the needs of fish, the nature of fish, how to find fish, and the psychological effects of fishing. Those who taught had Doctorates in "Fisheology." But the teachers did not fish! They only taught about fishing.

Further, the fishermen built large printing houses to publish fishing guides. Presses were kept busy day and night to produce material solely devoted to fishing methods. A speaker's bureau was also organized to schedule special speakers on fishing. After one stirring meeting entitled "The Necessity of Fishing," two young men left the meeting and actually went fishing, and one of them actually caught two fish! He was honored for his great catch and was scheduled to appear at all the big meetings to tell how he did it. So he quit fishing in order to have time to tell his experiences to other fishermen.

Now it is true that many of the fishermen sacrificed and put up with all kinds of difficulties. Some lived near the water and had to put up with the smell of dead fish. Some had to endure the ridicule of some who made fun of these fishermen's clubs because they claimed to be fishermen but they did not fish.

And they wondered about those who thought it was of little use to attend the meetings and talk about fishing. I mean, after all, were they not following the Master who said, "Come and I will make you fishers of men?" Imagine their chagrin when someone actually suggested that they were not really "fishermen." Yet it did make sense. Can we rightfully call a person a fisherman if year after year he never catches a fish?

Can a person really be following Jesus if he is not fishing?

Find The Books Of The Bible

SOLUTION:

I once made a **remark** about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a **lulu**, **kept people looking so hard for facts** and for others it was a **revelation**. Some were in a **jam**, **especially** since the names of the books were not capitalized, but the **truth** finally struck home to **numbers** of readers. To others it was real **job**. We want it to be a **most** fascinating few moments for you. **Yes**, **there** will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require **judges** to help them. I will quickly admit **it usually** takes a minister to find one of them and there will be loud **lamentations** when it is found. A little lady says **she brews** a cup of tea, so she can concentrate better. See how well you can **compete**. **Relax** now, for there really are sixteen names of books in the bible in this story.

THE LORD'S DAY PRIVILEGE LIST

Sunday Morning Service

Announcements: **Brandon Yates**

Song Leader: **Jim Covington**

Opening Prayer: **Mark Smith**

Lord's Table: **J.O. Smith**

Jr. Stout

Robert Hood

Randall Hood

Scripture Reading: **David Shepherd**

Sermon: **Bruce Dehut**

Closing Prayer: **Doug Smith**

Sunday Evening Service

Announcements: **Brandon Yates**

Song Leader: **Jim Covington**

Opening Prayer: **Mark Sharp**

Sermon: **Bruce Dehut**

Lord's Table: **J.O. Smith**

Closing Prayer: **Chris Runner**