

LIFE CHURCH SERMON SCRIPTURES FOR July 20, 2014

Today's teacher: Valerie Copeland

Title: "Casting Your Net"

Key Passage:

Matthew 13:47-52

⁴⁷"Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. ⁴⁸When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. ⁴⁹This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked.

"Yes," they replied.

⁵²He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old."

Supporting scripture

Matthew 4

Group Activity

After teaching several parables about what the Kingdom of God is like, Jesus asked the disciples if they understood. Life Church has been learning about the Kingdom of God over the past few weeks. "Have you understood these

things?" Discuss what you know about the Kingdom of God that you didn't know before.

What are you still confused about?

Understanding The Bible

Scripture taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (NIV) Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Bible Publishers.

Here, for your convenience, are the Bible passages that we will be using in today's sermon at Life Church. We use the New International Version (NIV) of the Bible so that you can read it in modern English. You may have been accustomed to reading or hearing the King James Version of the Bible, which uses older English (with words like "thee" , "thou", "thine", "believeth", etc.). If so, don't be alarmed – the passages below are really from the Bible even though they are in modern English.

The Bible was originally written in three ancient languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. None of the people in the Bible, and none of the people who God used to write it spoke English. In fact, English did not even exist as a language when the Bible was written. The King James Version, first published in 1611, was a translation of the Bible from its original languages into the every day English that people used back then – over 400 years ago! They didn't just speak that way in church – they spoke that way with everyone. The King James Version was "modernized" in 1769, but, even so, English has certainly changed a lot since then! Since you probably don't speak Hebrew, Aramaic, or Greek, you're going to have to read the Bible in translated form. **At Life Church we believe that since you're going to read an English translation of the Bible you might as well use an up to date one – written in the English you speak every day. God wants you to understand his Word so that you can put it into practice!**

Life Church Web Site: <http://www.lifechurchboston.org/>