

FISHING FOR HOLINESS

YEAR 1, 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Get together one blindfold for each team of three players. Create the “fish” and “trash” by printing the provided habits or writing them onto individual strips of paper. Lay the “fish” and “trash” upside down at a distance on the other side of the room.

To begin, divide the participants into teams and ask one member of each team to put on the blindfold. Explain that the blindfolded person is to be fishing pole and the other two players are the fishermen. The only way the fishermen can reel in their catch is by giving verbal directions to the fishing pole while staying on the designated “shore” line. As the fishermen make their cast they will direct the blindfolded person to pick up a paper and only make one catch at a time. They then will have to reel in their catch by calling their fishing pole back to them. The more habits of holiness caught the better. Time will vary depending on the distance between the fishermen and the habits. Play until the majority has 3-5 catches.

After the game is complete gather the groups back together and have them share their catches and their feelings about what they’ve caught. Explain that we live in a society that measures success by quantities and proofs and we can beat ourselves up when we can’t measure our progress or we can only see the negative habits. Or we can just as easily flatter ourselves when we can count a bunch of good habits. But God doesn’t work that way: God gave us those “habits of holiness” to give to others, to give back to Him; we didn’t earn them for ourselves. And for those who can only see their “habits of self-serving” that doesn’t necessarily mean you are lacking for God. Recognizing “habits of self-serving” is a “habit of holiness” itself! We all belong to God and if we are seeking him, if we are actively fishing for the Good then we are on our way to holiness.





