

FISH SWIMMING AMONGST SHARKS

Mathew 5:14-16

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Working at a company that has a culture of unrighteousness is extremely hard to deal with when you are righteous. The values, standards and ideas of that organization goes against **EVERYTHING** you believe and stand for.

In this case, you are a fish swimming amongst sharks. Righteous people working amongst evil people are attacked and persecuted for what is honorable and righteous. As odd as this sounds, being treated bad for doing what is right is the burden that righteous people have to carry.

YOU'RE PLANTED

God places you in jobs that **NEED** you. The places that need you are usually against what you stand for in principle. King Jesus was given the job from His Heavenly Father to come to the world and save humanity from sin and death. Everything that the world stood for was against the morals of King Jesus.

However, He was still sent here to work. David was given the job as a harp player to soothe the troubled spirit of King Saul. The environment of King's Saul palace did not correlate with the heart of David. However, he was still sent to work there.

Being the voice of righteousness amongst a crowd of evilness is a daunting task. It can be lonely and very painful. The torment of being separated, criticized and ostracized for bringing righteous change is a heavy weight to carry. However, this is why God has you there.

You are suppose to be a light in a dark place, a rose blossoming in the center of a garden of weeds. Mathew

5:14-16 says, *“Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”*

Light doesn't have influence when the sun is out. Light makes the most difference and has the greatest impact when it's dark. This is why God places you in an environment full of evil people...**TO MAKE AN IMPACT!**

THE PURPOSE

You may be thinking, what can a fish teach a shark? There is one thing that fishes have over sharks. A fish can teach a shark how to be **GENTLE**, metaphorically speaking. If you are working amongst sharks and you are a fish you have something to offer that can change the environment, influence the perspective and impact the culture.

YOU WERE MADE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Isaiah 43:7 says, *“Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.”* You were made for **HIS GLORY**. Being submitted to this mandate positions you to do what needs to be done for God rather than doing what pleases you.

DON'T GIVE UP

God plants you in unrighteous environments so you can **MAKE A GODLY DIFFERENCE!** Anyone who makes a difference is different by nature. The rapper Nas expressed this quote in one of his rap songs, “people fear what they don’t understand and hate what they can’t conquer.”

When you are different you instill fear into people. When you are different you are easily misunderstood. Because you are different you cannot be conquered which is why you are attacked. It’s normal to feel discouraged, but don’t give up. There are valuable lessons we can learn

from the journey of David and King Jesus that will encourage you **NOT** to give up.

Lesson #1: Despite how different David and King Jesus was from the factors of their environments and their peers they were **NEVER** defeated.

Lesson #2: During their journey, life was uncertain. However, in the **END** both of them rose to positions of power. David was king of Israel and King Jesus rose with all power in His hands.

Lesson #3: David and Jesus enemies planned to kill both of them. However, they were not harmed by the plans of evil people. When you are different God's purpose will override the plans of people.

EVERYTHING WILL WORK OUT

If you are a fish swimming amongst Sharks don't be scared by what **APPEARS** to be. Focus on the Lord

because your God is bigger than your problems. When David faced Goliath he focused on his God, which explains how he defeated Goliath.

When King Jesus spoke to the Pharisees he focused on His Heavenly Father and spoke boldly to the religious leaders of His day. **YOU SHOULD DO THE SAME!** When you are focus on King Jesus you won't focus on your circumstances.

WISDOM KEY:

**WHAT YOU FOCUS ON WILL CONTROL YOUR
TRAIN OF THOUGHT.**

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