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REBUILDING  
the  
GATES



# Rebuilding the Fish Gate



1. A call to evangelism.
2. A growing heart for the lost.
3. Building resilience to opposition



# Rebuilding the Fish Gate



1. A call to evangelism.
2. A growing heart for the lost.
3. Building resilience to opposition
4. Becoming who you already are.
5. Counting the cost.



# Becoming who you already are.

Matt 5:13 - 16

13 “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

14 “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.



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Becoming who you already are.

S - Sphere of Influence.

A - Acts of Kindness.

L - Listen.

T - Trust God.



# Step One: Sphere of Influence

The background image shows a stone archway in a ruined building. The arch is made of light-colored stone blocks. The floor is covered in rubble and debris, including broken stone blocks and wooden planks. A simple metal railing is positioned in front of the archway. The overall scene is one of destruction and decay.

- Your heart for them will grow
- You will see them differently
- You will be watching for opportunity.



# Step One: Sphere of Influence

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1 Pet 3:13 - 17

“...always be ready to give an answer (defense) to everyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is IN you...”



# Step Two: Acts of Kindness

Luke 19:1 - 10

1 Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. 2 Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. 3 And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. 4 So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. 5 And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him,<sup>[fn]</sup> and said to him, “Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house.”



# Step Two: Acts of Kindness

Luke 19:1 - 10

6 So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. 7 But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner."

8 Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold."

9 And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; 10 for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."



# Step Two: Acts of Kindness

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Developing Heavens Conviction Concerning Mankind:

- a. Heaven is seeking them, knowing their name and their purpose.
- b. They are seeking Jesus.



# Step Two: Acts of Kindness

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Lessons from Jesus and Zaccheus:

i. Jesus went to him.



# Step Two: Acts of Kindness



Lessons from Jesus and Zaccheus:

- i. Jesus went to him.
- ii. Jesus treated him differently than anyone else.



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Lessons from Jesus and Zaccheus:

- i. Jesus went to him.
- ii. Jesus treated him differently than anyone else.
- iii. Dont write anybody off.



# Step Two: Acts of Kindness

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Lessons from Jesus and Zaccheus:

- i. Jesus went to him.
- ii. Jesus treated him differently than anyone else.
- iii. Don't write anybody off.
- iv. Work with the Holy Spirit's convicting power.



# Step Three: Listen

Active Listening, discerning the truth from the clutter.





# Step Four: Trust God

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Luke 13:20 - 21

20 And again He said, "To what shall I liken the kingdom of God? 21 It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened."



# Count the Cost

Luke 14:25 - 34

25 Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them, 26 “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. 27 And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. 28 *FOR WHICH OF YOU, INTENDING TO BUILD A TOWER, DOES NOT SIT DOWN FIRST AND COUNT THE COST*, whether he has enough to finish it— 29 lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, 30 saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’”



# Count the Cost

Luke 14:25 - 34

31 Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? 32 Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. 33 So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.

34 "Salt is good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? 35 It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill, but men throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"



# Count the Cost

## Matthew 10:5 - 20

5 THESE TWELVE JESUS SENT OUT and commanded them, saying: “Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. 6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7 AND AS YOU GO, PREACH, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give. 9 Provide neither gold nor silver nor copper in your money belts, 10 nor bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staffs; for a worker is worthy of his food. 11 “Now whatever city or town you enter, inquire who in it is worthy, and stay there till you go out. 12 And when you go into a household, greet it. 13 If the household is worthy, let your peace come upon it. But if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.



# Count the Cost

## Matthew 10:5 - 20

14 And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet. 15 Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!

*16 "BEHOLD, I SEND YOU OUT AS SHEEP IN THE MIDST OF WOLVES. THEREFORE BE WISE AS SERPENTS AND HARMLESS AS DOVES.* 17 But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. 18 You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. 19 But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; 20 for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.



# Count the Cost

Luke 21:12 - 16

12 But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name's sake. 13 But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony. 14 Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; 15 for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist. 16 You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death.



# Count the Cost

1. John the Baptist was beheaded
2. James the son of Zebedee was beheaded by Herod around 44AD (Acts 12).

From Clement, the early Church Father:

When James was brought to the tribunal seat, he that brought him and was the cause of the trouble; seeing him to be condemned and that he should suffer death, was greatly moved therewith in heart and conscience that as they went to the execution, he confessed also, of his own accord, to be a Christian. And so they were led forth together, and along the way he asked James to forgive him what he had done. After that James, having paused a little upon the matter, turning to him said, 'Peace be to thee brother;' and kissed him. And both were beheaded together.



# Count the Cost

3. Peter martyred in Rome, about AD 66. He was crucified upside down at his request.
4. Andrew was crucified, and being brought to the cross, said:  
“O cross, most welcome and long looked for, with a willing mind, joyfully and desirously, I come to thee, being the scholar of Him which did hang on thee: because I have always been thy loved, and have coveted to embrace thee.”
5. Thomas was known for going to India. Its reported he was killed by the piercing through of the spears of four soldiers, other reports say that he ‘suffered with a dart unto death’



# Count the Cost

6. Philip went into Africa and Asia. He was crucified and stoned to death.
7. Mark the Evangelist - dragged by horses with ropes into a fire where he was burned.
8. Bartholomew has various accounts, but by Foxes book of Martyrs, he was said to be skinned, then beheaded after translating the gospel of Matthew into one of the languages of India
9. James the son of Alphaeus - stoned and then clubbed to death.



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10. Simon the Zealot - crucified, after refusing to sacrifice to the sun God.
11. Matthias - Was burned / stoned
12. Matthew (Levi) - With spears
13. John the Apostle - failed at being burned in boiling oil, escaped unhurt and died of old age.



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