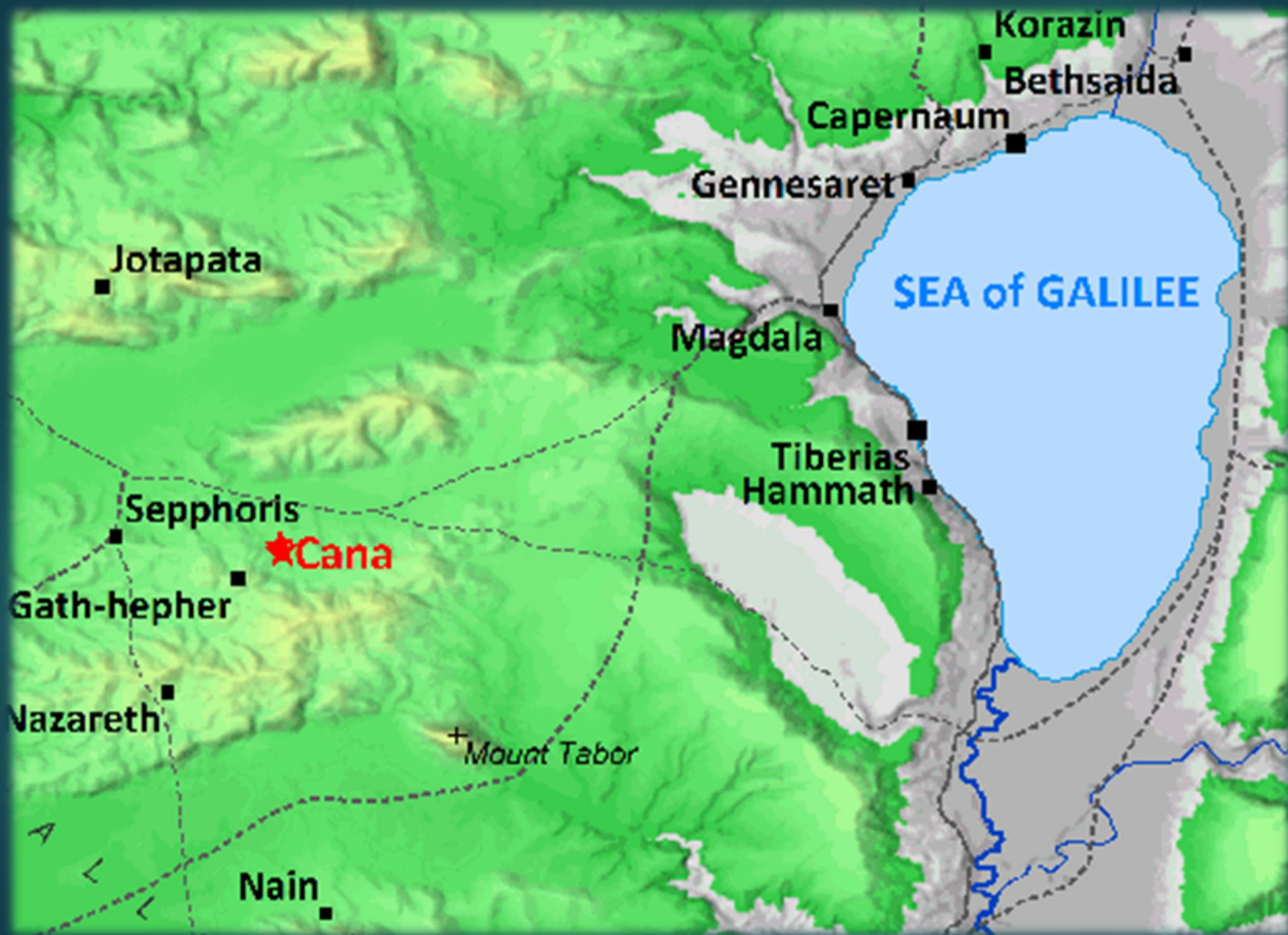




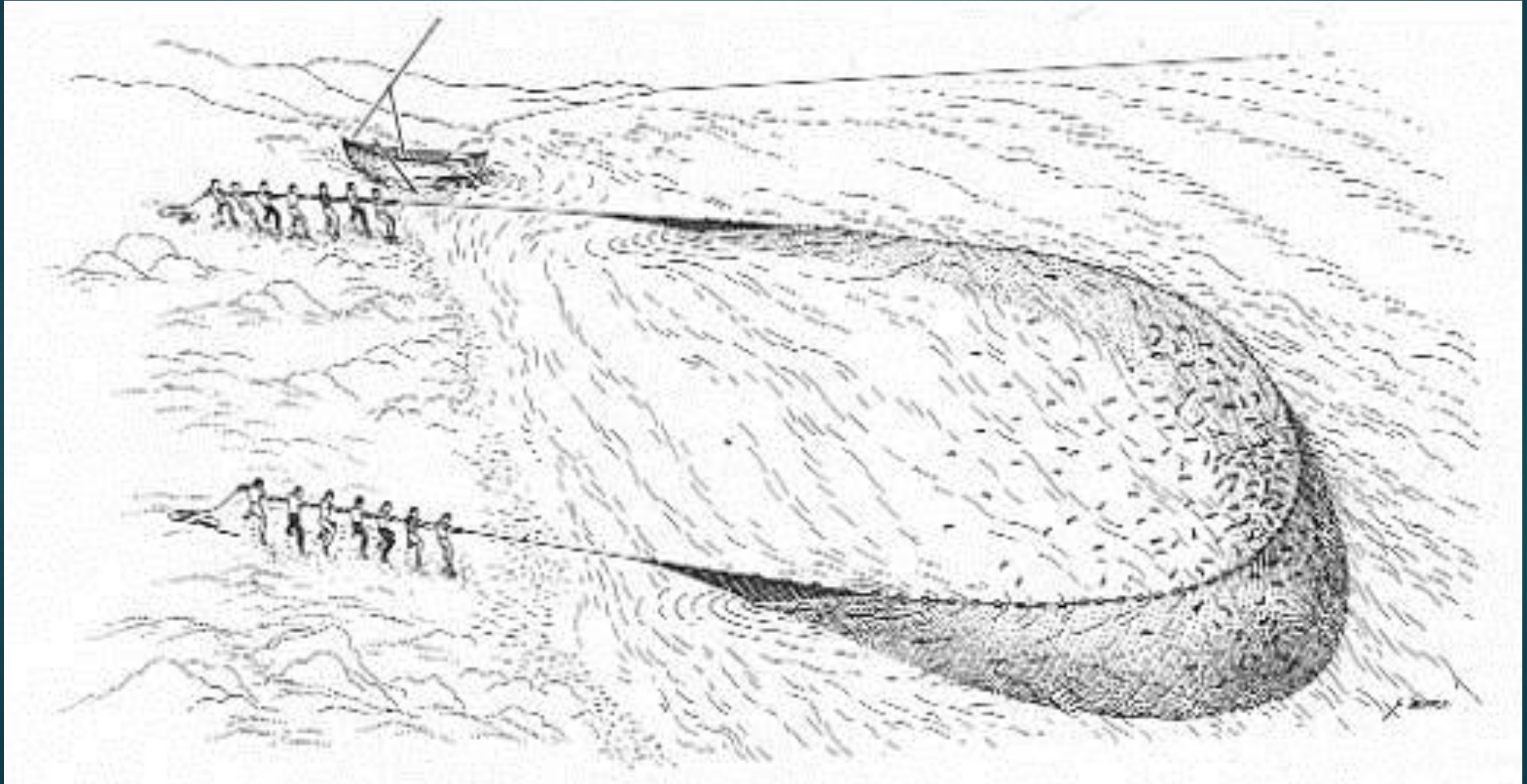
Be Ye Fishers of Men

Matthew 4:18-22

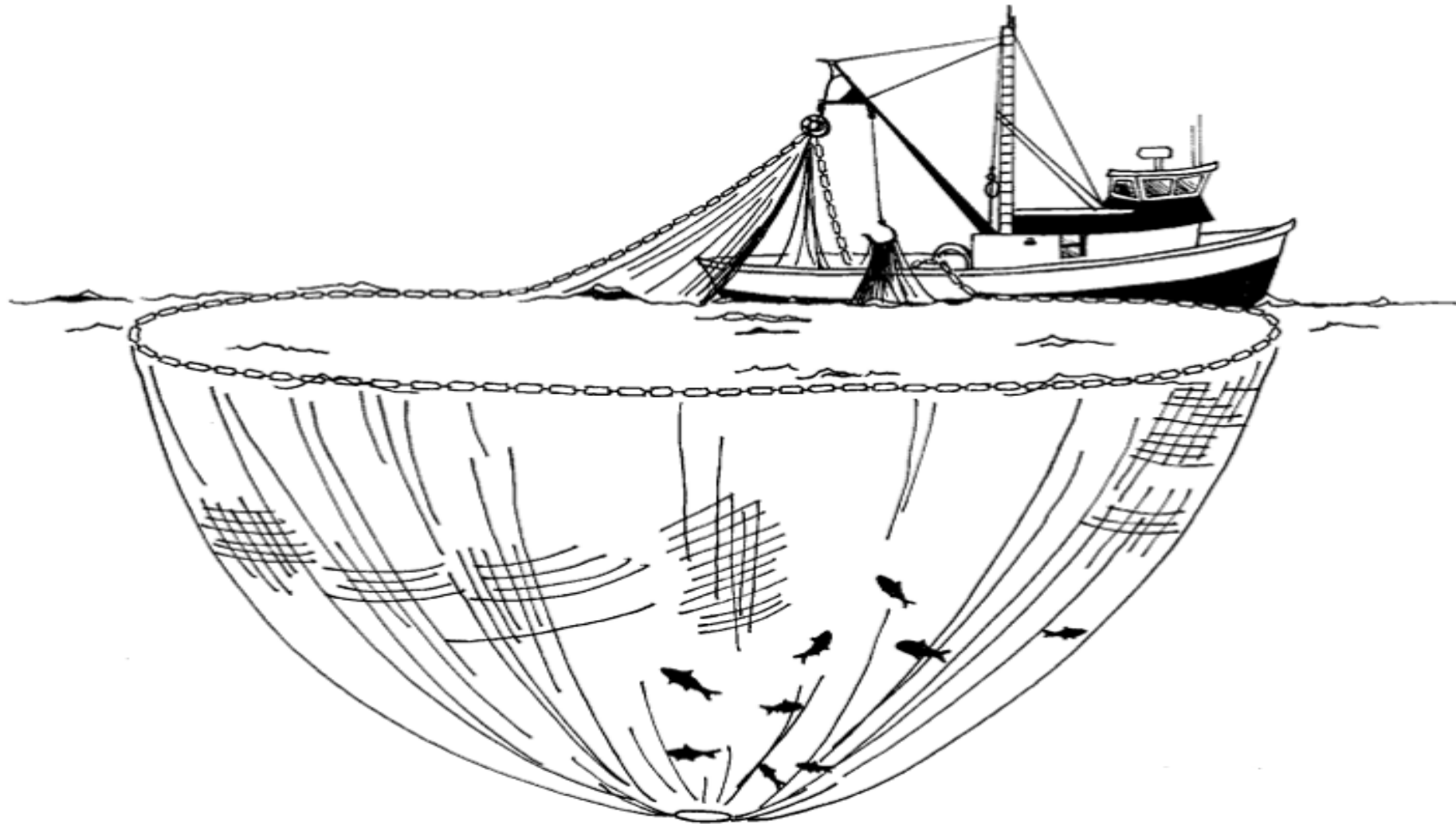
Matthew 4:18-22- Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And He *said to them, “[Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. ²¹ Going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the *son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and He called them.²² Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.



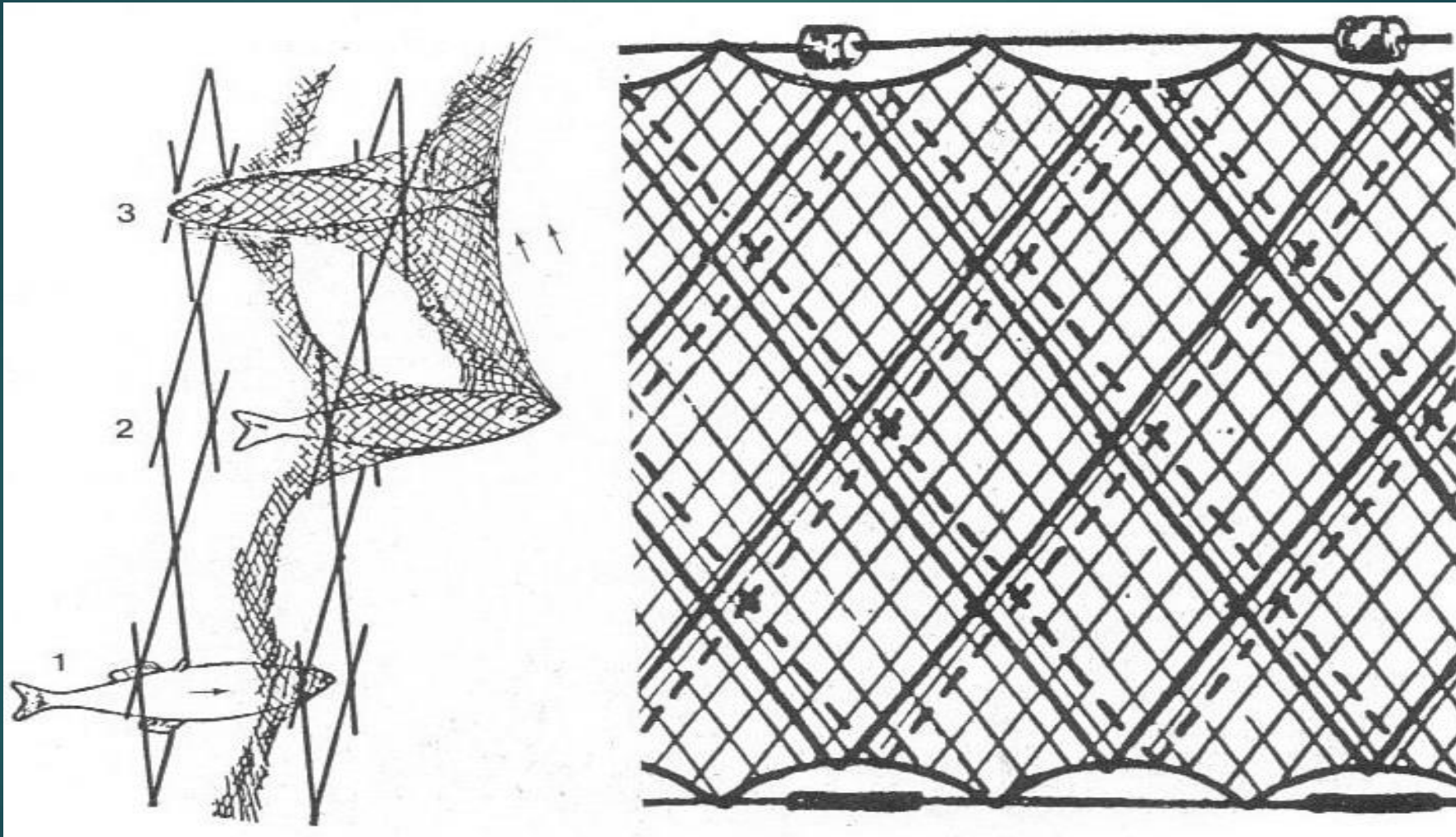
Seine Net



Circular Cast Net



Trammel Net



We Have to Think Like A Fish

1 Corinthians 9:19-22

For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more. 20To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law; 21to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law. 22To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some. 23I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it.

Understanding The Fish

- ▶ Matthew 16:3- "And in the morning, 'There will be a storm today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Do you know how to discern the appearance of the sky, but cannot discern the signs of the times?"
- ▶ 1 Chronicles 12:32- Of the sons of Issachar, men who understood the times, with knowledge of what Israel should do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their kinsmen were at their command.

Choosing the Fish

- ▶ Acts 1:8- but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.“

Growth in Conservative Churches

- ▶ Transfers from other congregations (no conversion) 51%
- ▶ Children of members 27%
- ▶ Sinners (converts) 22%

People in America

- ▶ 25% (81,691,687) of the American population attend a “church” weekly
 - ▶ 96% will not switch
 - ▶ 4% (3,267,667) might switch
- ▶ 75% (245,075,061) of the population are non-practicing
 - ▶ 80% will not switch
 - ▶ 20% (49,015,012) might switch
- ▶ Doing the math that makes 16% (52,282,670) of America is fertile soil

People In Alabama

- ▶ Alabama is 63.8% verse the 25% national average
- ▶ 4,863,000 total population
- ▶ 1,760,406 not religiously affiliated
- ▶ 3,040,542 denominationally affiliated

Religious Breakdown of Alabama

Religious Affiliation	Numbers	Religious Affiliation	Numbers
Baptist	37% (17,685,027)	Presbyterian	3% (143,392)
Refuse Religion	10% (477,974)	church of God	2% (95,595)
Methodist	9% (430,176)	church of Christ	2% (95,595)
Catholic	7% (334,582)	Pentacostal	2% (95,595)
Spiritual	6% (286,784)	Mormon	2% (95,595)
Snake Handlers	6% (286,784)	Lutheran	2% (95,595)

What Do The Fish Look Like

- ▶ Age- We can see as we go from older to younger the number of “Christians” decreases
 - ▶ 72-89: 86%
 - ▶ 53-71: 78%
 - ▶ 37-52: 70%
 - ▶ 28-36: 57%
 - ▶ 21-27: 56%
- ▶ A different net is required to reach the different age groups

What Do The Fish Look Like

	Male	Female	Total
Total Population	2,320,188	2,459,548	4,779,736
White	1,605,447	1,669,947	3,275,394
Black	582,480	668,831	1,251,311
Hispanic	103,783	81,819	185,602
Other	52,267	40,643	96,910
Two or More	34,957	36,294	71,251
Asian	25,329	28,266	53,595
Native American	14,050	14,168	28,218
Three or More	1,987	2,225	4,212

Mending The Net

- ▶ Mending the net is speaking of our Apologetics
- ▶ 1 Peter 3:15- but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;
- ▶ Acts 18:28- for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

Cleaning Our Net

- ▶ **Luke 5:1** So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret,
- ▶ If fishing nets were not cleaned, they would quickly become ineffective, We have to clean our lives to be effective at drawing people to Christ
- ▶ **John 13:35** By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”
- ▶ **1 Corinthians 6:11** And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Have You Given Your Life To The Lord

- ▶ God's Part

- ▶ The great love of God for man- John 3:16
- ▶ He gave His Son as the Savior- Luke 19:10
- ▶ He sent the Holy Spirit as a guide- John 16:13
- ▶ Gave the Gospel as the power unto salvation- Romans 1:16
- ▶ Provided our atonement by the blood of Christ- Romans 5:9

Have You Given Your Life To The Lord

- ▶ Man's Part
 - ▶ Hear the Gospel- Romans 10:17
 - ▶ Believe the Gospel- John 20:31
 - ▶ Repent of past sins- Luke 13:3
 - ▶ Confess Jesus Christ- Romans 10:10
 - ▶ Be Baptized- Galatians 3:27
 - ▶ Be Faithful Even Unto Death- Revelation 2:10