

The Lakeside



Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday September 9 2024 - Psalm 127:1

1 Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain

Read Psalm 127 for meditation and inspiration.



Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

"Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch" (Luke 5:10).

A father and son went fishing together one afternoon. As they prepared to cast their lines out into the lake, the father said excitedly, "Do you see that big swirl? That must be a really big fish out there." With that, he tossed his line out in the direction of the swirl and waited. But nothing happened. Suddenly, he saw it again.

"Did you see that big splash?" Again, the line went out, but nothing happened. After a few more attempts the son called over to his father.

"Look," he said, pointing toward the swirling water. "Do you see what I see?"

Passing beneath them, a massive school of tiny minnows was gliding by, newly hatched. You see, joined together, the school of tiny fish was creating those giant swirls.

We live in a dangerous age in which our remarkable, wondrous species is drowning in a swirling quest for power, status, and riches. In so many ways, we have tragically fallen short of our ideals: of what life could be -- what life should be. There are times, of course, when we display a capacity for love, compassion, and service. And in this, we hold the key to the survival of our God-given humanity. In other words, we have a choice. And we choose where to place our faith and hope. Do we really think that the Democratic or Republican Parties will save us? Or do we think that we are only one lottery win away from the fullness of life? Or will becoming the chairperson of our HOA, Board of Education, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, or the President or Stated Clerk of a Presbyterian Congregation will give us

wholeness with lives filled with meaning and purpose? These are all just swirls of minnows while the real catch is right before us in the person of Jesus. Can anything else bring to us the fulfillment we so desperately need? No, a thousand times NO! Jesus and our commitment as His disciple will offer us all of these and more. His gifts are present in our lives today, tomorrow and even into eternity.

Go with Jesus,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger". The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent loop at the end of the word.

Roger