

Go Fish! Open Space with Matt McNelly 9-15-16 (about 6 people attended)

- Matt had to find new ways to make money. Church reduced his hours and finances.
- Northern Pikeminnow
 - Dams created environment for this fish to flourish
 - Sport Reward Program - get paid to catch these fish (\$5-\$8 per fish)
 - May-Sept.
 - Individuals are making several thousand catching these fish
 - Cool way to do Youth Ministry
 - Get kids off their screens, out of the house, and make some money, save salmon, creation care
 - Only need a mailing address and social security # - no age requirement
- Institute of Youth Ministry at Princeton
 - Hatch-a-thon
 - Social or missional enterprises
 - Kingdom of God and for profit element that will benefit the community
 - 3 day event
 - Business, legal, marketing, theology
 - Make a business plan
 - 5 minutes to make a pitch to the people
 - 32 ministries presented
 - He was in top 5 for final round - gave his 5 min pitch
 - Both fish and kids need to be caught (by the love of Jesus)
 - Dams slowed the flow of the river
 - Pikeminnow is a slow swimmer so this helped it flourish
 - It is eating the salmon
 - Northern Pikeminnow Sport Reward Program
 - Getting rid of predaceous fish
 - Wants to do it with youth from the church
 - Turn the pontoon boat as a monastic community on the water
 - Significant discipline needed on the boat in order to stay safe
 - Seeking physical safety and spiritual development
 - Begin with a Psalm and a prayer. Do daily hours/offices.
 - Thanking God each time a fish is caught.
- Got a Strategic Missional Initiative Grant from Presbytery
- Some donations from church members as well
 - Bought a Pontoon boat from Lutheran neighbor who had used it for this program the previous season. He made \$23,000 using that boat.
 - Bought fishing poles and other start up resources.
- Practiced doing fishing for a couple months to make sure they knew how to do it.

- Started taking kids out in August.
- Feeling called to get back in the boat to fish for people while fishing for fish.
- Funded by the Bonneville Power Administration - run by Fish and Wildlife
- Fish are turned into fertilizer after being caught
- Amazing experiences seeing huge sturgeon by the shore and being out at night under the stars. Worshipful experiences in creation.
- Most days were very trying. It turned out to be harder to catch the right kind of fish that hoped.
- When they finally got kids out on the water the Pikeminnow fishing had dried up. They had fun fishing for other kinds of fish too. Kids caught bass that they could take home and feed to their family.
 - Learned how to be on the boat and fish.
 - All the kids that got to go loved it.
 - Confirmation of a viable vehicle for ministry.
- Some benefits to kids:
 - Parents like the idea that their kids may come home with more money than they left home with.
 - Engage with creation and get physical workout.
- Matt Overton: Youth Ministry Lawn Care Business
 - Doing mentorship/ministry alongside an active money-making job
- Different options/offerings:
 - Have kids come for a week in the summer
 - Have some kids come for the whole summer
 - Have kids sign up to come for whatever days they can do throughout the summer
- Economic model:
 - Could have kids pay a participation fee for kids to cover the boat, bait, gas, etc.
 - It would be cost prohibitive to have them pay enough to cover staffing costs.
- Meaningful relational influence on the other anglers/fishers too
- This ministry plan could be a vehicle that other youth ministries along the Columbia and Snake rivers could use.