"Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matt. 4:19, NASB).

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Born in the House of Bread

Christ was born in Bethlehem. *Bethlehem* means "the House of Bread." Jesus was not born in the house of royalty, the house of riches, or the house of celebrity.

Jesus was not born in Jerusalem, Rome, Athens, or Alexandria. He was not born in any political, commercial, cultural, educational, or socially significant city. When the Old Testament prophet Micah foretold His birth, he emphasized its lack of significance. "You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting" (Micah 5:2).

Bread is one of life's most common things; without it man would not survive. God's Son is common in the sense that He is available to all. Without Him, there is no life. He said, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst" (John 6:35).

The Infinite came to earth as an infant. He who spans the heavens and holds the ocean in the hollow of His hand condescended to be nourished by a woman's breast. There was no way to save us but by stooping to us. To bring earth up to heaven, He had to bring heaven down to earth.

In the incarnation, He had compassion, for He took upon himself our infirmities, and was made like unto ourselves. --- Brian Atwood, House to House Heart to Heart, Vol. 28, No. 2, pg. 7

The Last Question

During my second month of college, our professor gave a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions until I read the last one:

"What is the first name of the women who cleans the school?" Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired, and in her 50's, but how would I know her name?

I handed in my paper, leaving the question blank. Just before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade.

"Absolutely," said the professor. "In your careers, you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say 'hello."

I have never forgotten that lesson. Her name was Dorothy. --- Anonymous, <u>Ibid.</u>, pg. 4

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