

April 2026



HUNDREDS of poor & homeless people will get brand new shoes at Target Dayton this month!  UNDER ARMOUR.

COME FOLLOW ME

Dear Friend,

More than 30 years ago now, God’s Spirit began to challenge Cindi and I about how little we were doing to reach people all around us who were perishing without Christ.

We began to ask ourselves basic questions like, is believing in Jesus, going to church, reading our Bibles, saying our prayers and teaching Sunday school really what it means to follow Him? Are we really “following” Jesus?

As we studied our Bibles and prayed for answers, the simple truth became clear to our hearts. While followers of Jesus should go to church and do those other things, following Jesus means something much more than that.

When Jesus called His first disciples He said, *“Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men!”* (Matthew 4:19) And the Bible records what they did: *“at once they left their nets and followed Him.”* (Matthew 4:20)

They made a radical change in their priorities. They stopped what they were doing with their lives... fishing for fish... and they joined Christ on His mission to fish for the souls of men. Simply put, they left where they were at... to go where He was going... to do what He wanted them to do: help Him fish for men! *continued >*





"I'm so happy to get new shoes I could cry!"

~Ari, homeless for 3 mths

And "where" did Jesus lead His disciples to fish for men? He led them to the spiritually darkest regions in Israel, where the "least of these brothers of mine" (Matthew 25:40) and the poorest of the poor were suffering in sin, poverty, disease and demon-possession (Matthew 4:23-24). Jesus said, *"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor!"* (Luke 4:18). Jesus went to the poorest of the poor to cast out His nets.



"What a relief to get new shoes on my poor aching feet! Thank you!"

~Craig, homeless for 11 mths

to where He was leading us at first. Following Him into the inner city to reach the poor was WAY out of our comfort zone. We tried reasoning with Him that we had no experience. We pointed out that it made no sense because we had no idea what to do.

Finally, after a year of prayer and some long-term fasting, we both yielded ourselves to Christ's call to *"come follow Him and become fishers of men"*! We pushed past our excuses, fears and inexperience and we followed Jesus into the inner city of Dayton to go fishing! We



"My old shoes were so worn out they had holes in them!" Thank you very much!"

~Pat, homeless for 3 yrs

With His words weighing on our hearts, Cindi and I knew that Jesus was calling US to make a radical change in our priorities. To stop what we were doing with our lives... for ourselves... and to follow Him on His mission to fish for the souls of men. Simply put, to leave where we were at... in comfortable safe Centerville... to go where He would go and fish for men!

For us that meant Jesus was leading us to go fishing for the souls of men in the inner city of Dayton, where tens of thousands of poor people suffer in poverty and spiritual darkness every day. To follow Jesus meant going to "bad" neighborhoods we'd always stayed away from, to help "the kind people" we didn't want to be around.

To be honest, we delayed following Jesus
rented a house in a "rough" neighborhood, across the street from an abandoned house and 2 blocks from a HUD housing project complete with drive-by shootings and drug runners. And God began to do *"immeasurably more than all we asked or imagined according to His power at work within us!"* (Ephesians 3:20)

And "how" did Jesus fish for the souls of men among the poor? In love, He gave them relief from their physical suffering and needs (feeding, healing, delivering them); and in love, He preached the good news to them to relieve their spiritual suffering in sin, spiritual darkness and demonic oppression.

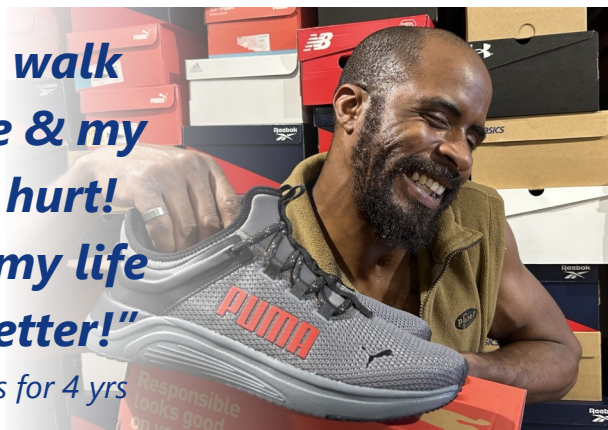
So, we followed Jesus' fishing methods! In love, we started giving relief to the physical suffering of the poor and homeless with free hot meals and other help; and in love we started preaching the good news to them to relieve their spiritual suffering in sin, spiritual darkness and demonic oppression! So began the ministry of Target Dayton 26 years ago!

Today, six days a week, we are still following Jesus' methods... giving relief to the physical suffering and needs of thousands of poor and homeless people, casting out our nets, "fishing for men" where Jesus did.

During the month of April, for the sixth year in a row, we are giving relief to the physical suffering and needs of the poor in an incredible way: by replacing their worn out shoes with brand new ones!

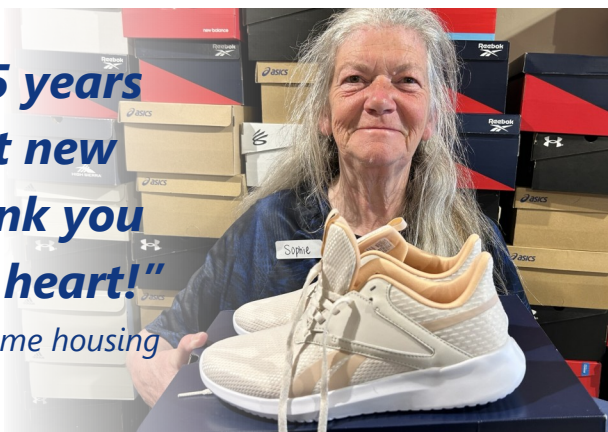
"I have to walk everywhere & my old shoes hurt! You made my life so much better!"

~Josh, homeless for 4 yrs



"It's been 5 years since I got new shoes! Thank you with all my heart!"

~Sophie, low-income housing



Hundreds and hundreds of poor people will come to us for new shoes in April! We will cast out our nets and preach the good news to every one of them... and we will catch many "fish"... and give them relief from their spiritual suffering in sin, spiritual darkness and demonic oppression! Because Jesus said, "Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men!" *continued >*

"I gave my life to Christ!"

~Lashyia, homeless for 4 mths



"My old shoes were used & worn out when I got them! Thank you so much for new shoes!"

~Connie, homeless for 18 mths





More than a thousand desperate, hurting, lost, poor people will come through our doors this month with worn out shoes! And we will put brand new shoes on their feet... **for free!** We will also share the message of the gospel with each one, and many will surrender their hurting, lost souls to Christ! We are going fishing with shoes... to catch many souls for Christ!

Thank you for helping us be FISHERS OF MEN!

Will you join Cindi and I in as we endeavor to throw out bigger "nets"... for bigger "catches" than ever before in 2026? Will you pray more, serve more and give more than ever before to relieve the physical and spiritual suffering of the poor in our city?

It's easy to sign up to start giving today! Visit our website, scan the QR code, or simply use the enclosed donation form to donate by mail. And sign up to serve at one of our services! We need your help with the nets! Visit our website, use our TD SERVE app, or just give us a call!

I hope you will request your free copy of **"IN HIS STEPS"** as our gift of appreciation for your help! This book will challenge and inspire your faith to follow Jesus!

Remember, Jesus said, *"I tell you the truth. Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me!"* (Matthew 25:40) Let's go fishing together!

Pastor Mark & Cindi

YOU MAKE IT POSSIBLE!

Through your service & monthly support...

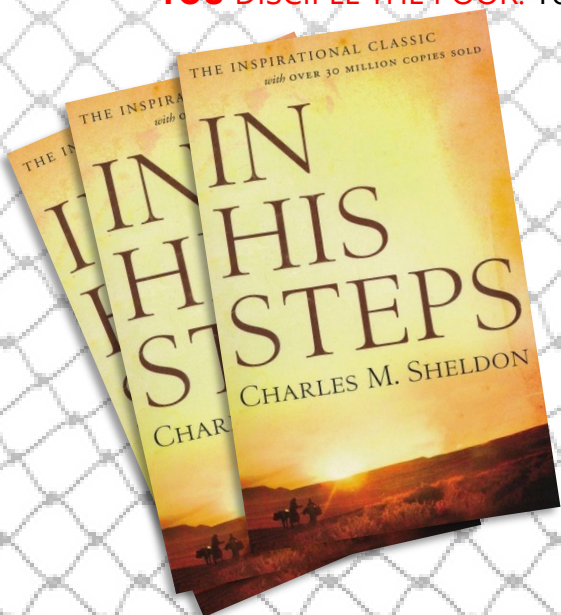
YOU BRING THE POOR: You give them a ride to get the help they need...

YOU FEED THE POOR: You feed them with free hot breakfast or dinner...

YOU CLOTHE THE POOR: You clothe them with shirts, socks, shoes, hats, gloves & coats...

YOU SAVE THE POOR: You preach the good news to them & they are saved...

YOU DISCIPLE THE POOR: You disciple them & give them a place to serve Christ...



OUR GIFT TO YOU! The inspirational Classic book that inspired Mark & Cindi to start Target Dayton! It's our special gift to you in appreciation for your donation to feed & save the poor this month!

Did you know that you can make a secure gift online at TARGETDAYTON.COM or by scanning this code?



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