

## PARABLE OF THE DISCONTENTED GOLDFISH

Arrange ahead of time for a student to come up front and help you with your demonstration. Have a bowl of goldfish up front and ask the student to come up and name one of the goldfish.

Explain how the fish, pressing his face up to the glass is really mad because he resents the boundaries of being in the bowl. He's sick and tired of being stuck inside and wants to assert his goldfish rights. Ask the student what the fish is thinking right now.

The obvious answer is, "I want to be out of here."

Tell the group, "The fish is gathering his friends together to assert his right to get out."

Have the student pull the fish out of the bowl and hold him up. Talk about how free the fish is as he is sitting there dripping. Ask student how he thinks the fish is feeling.

The obvious answer is, "I need some water."

Challenge the group, "But it is his right not to be inside the boundaries of this fishbowl, don't you think?"

Ask the student what would happen if the goldfish got his way and was left free outside of the fishbowl?

The obvious answer... "He's gonna die."

Put fish back in fishbowl.

That's why the Bible says you have the right attitude when you say, "I'm not going to assert my rights."

Jesus says, if you want to be happy, then learn to be meek, learn to swallow it sometimes and respond meekly to your boss, your parents, your teacher...because the Bible says that the guy who wants to be first has to be the servant of all.



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