

try to carefully control how their decision is communicated to others. They do this, not because they are ashamed of their decision for Christ, but because they don't want to estrange, disappoint, or dishonor anyone—non-Christian, Christian or even Christ himself. They make sure, as much as possible, that the outcome will be positive, honoring to all and shaming none. That's their desire and objective, even though it may not always be possible. They are not risk-takers, especially when it comes to relationships. They always try their best to strengthen and not destroy relationships, to bring honor and not shame. Once bonded to the Lord, this bent in human relationships is directed toward Christ, their relationship with him is viewed as permanent, and their principal motivation is, not to embarrass, but to bring honor to his Name.

**NINE STEPS TO EFFECTIVE "OMOIYARI" EVANGELISM** How might we apply all that's been discussed so far? What follows is a practical application of the insights presented. It's a process that is easily remembered, especially for those who fish for fish. The Lord told us, who are his followers, that he will enable us to become "fishers of men." Because of this, it seemed appropriate to use the paradigm of effective fishing to explain the steps of *omoiyari* evangelism. The steps to effective stream fishing with the corresponding steps to effective evangelistic fishing for people can be envisioned as follows:

<b>Fish Fishing</b>	<b>People Fishing</b>
1 Understand the fish you are trying to catch	1 Understand the people the Lord wants us to reach
2 Prepare yourself to catch fish	2 Prepare ourselves to do what is necessary to reach them
3 Gather the right fishing tackle	3 Search for and inventory appropriate evangelistic resources
4 Approach the fish without spooking them	4 Spend time and nurture relationships with non-Christians
5 Choose bait the fish want to eat	5 Share our lives and our Lord with them
6 Cast and deliver bait where there are fish as naturally as possible	6 Share naturally, normally and when needed
7 Tug on your line when the fish accepts the bait	7 Encourage commitment when openness is evident