

Faith Lift: "Love 'Em All"

Recently I have seen cars circling through our church parking lot and then driving off. I've seen several a day. I can only conclude that they must be playing Pokemon Go.

I've seen clusters of teen agers walking the streets of my neighborhood glued to their cell phones trying to "catch 'em all."

Last Friday, when I was going to see John Higginbotham in the Kindred Hospital in Tomball I passed a church that had on its marquee "Pokemon and Jesus Found Inside."

From what I can gather, Pokemon Go is like electronic geocaching. When you download the game on your electronic device your GPS will lead you to locations where the player can "catch" these "Pocket Monsters=Pokemon." After catching 'em, the player trains them so they can fight other ones that another player has caught. I think.

This Sunday our youth who just returned from a 5,000 strong youth event at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana will be sharing their experiences with us in worship. They will be showing us a Power Point Presentation of their adventure and bringing the message: "GO!" Maybe they can better explain Pokemon Go.

I seem to remember that one of the things that Jesus charged his disciples to do was to be people catchers. He said to at least 4 of his 12 followers, "You have been catching fish. From now on I'm going to show you how to catch people."

What would our church, our communities, our country and our world be like if we had the same enthusiasm for reaching out to people with love of God as the enthusiasts of a cyber video game have for catching all Pokemon? Maybe some of those circling our parking lot would actually park and come inside hunting for "Pikachu" and decide to "PickaPew" and find Jesus' love through us. Maybe some of us would get out in public and form friendships we wouldn't normally have formed because we were willing to be motivated to step outside our usual ruts driven by a desire to ..."love 'em all."