

The Double Fish Logo of Community Bible Study

In the early church it was often dangerous to be identified as a Christian so believers created symbols to reveal to other believers that they were Christ followers. To identify oneself as such, a person would often draw a curved line in the sand with a stick, as if doodling. If the other person standing there was also a believer he would draw a second line to complete the outline of a fish. A fish symbol drawn on a wall or the side of a building directed early believers to places of worship. Early believers found places of worship by moving in the direction of a fish drawn on walls. The Greek word for fish, *ichthys*, became an acrostic which spelled the first letter of the Greek words for Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior.

Community Bible Study chose a double fish for its logo. The top, slightly larger fish represents Jesus Christ, our Savior. The Mission of the ministry is to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ so the lower fish symbolizes a disciple of Jesus. The larger fish can also represent the mature believer discipling a new believer. In addition the double fish communicates the idea of Christians in community.

In Matthew 4:19 Jesus calls His disciples to "Come, follow me,...I will make you fishers of men." In the feeding of the multitudes (Matt. 14:17; Mark 6:38; Luke 9:13; John 6:9) two fish (and loaves of bread) were used to show Jesus' miraculous power and to symbolize His spiritual feeding as well as the physical feeding of the hungry crowds. One of the goals of CBS is to be a place where everyone can come and be spiritually fed as they study God's Word.