

Pray for Laborers

Matthew 9:35-38

Main Idea: The harvest of souls is the LORD's harvest, not ours. The harvest is so plentiful and the laborers are so few. Let us pray that the Lord of the harvest will send more workers into God's field to do God's work.

Truth: Sometimes the best response to condemnation is to simply keep doing the work of the LORD.

The Ministry of Jesus in our World

"And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people." (Matthew 4:23 [ESV](#))

Three components of Jesus' ministry:

1. Jesus taught people the Word of God.
2. Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the Kingdom.
3. Jesus authenticated His message with healing miracles.

Truth: The proclamation of the Gospel is central to every disciples' ministry. Our faithfulness to Jesus' ministry is rooted in our understanding Jesus' Gospel and then proclaiming it.

"Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." (2 Corinthians 5:20 [ESV](#))

Application: Let us ask the LORD for a zeal to cherish the message Jesus gives to us and to announce it to the people in our lives.

The Compassion of Jesus upon our World

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one." (John 10:27-30 [ESV](#))

Truth: Jesus ministry to us begins with His compassion for us.

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.
He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me." (Psalm 23:1-4 [ESV](#))

Application: Receive Jesus as Your Shepherd. Turn away from any false shepherd. Repent of trying to be your own Shepherd. Give yourself to the Good Shepherd who alone can care for you and give you life.

The Perspective of Jesus about our World

Truth: God is still working miracles in our world to bring sinners to repentance and the lost into His kingdom.

"Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest." (John 4:35 [ESV](#))

Truth: The problem Jesus' church faces is never with not having enough opportunities to witness or make disciples. The problem the church faces is having laborers who are willing and committed to Jesus' ministry.

The Petition from Jesus for our World

Truth: God's method always begins with prayer. Prayer does not make other actions unnecessary, but it does make other actions spiritually meaningful.

"There is no panic in heaven! God has no problems, only plans." Corrie ten Boom

Truth: When we pray the LORD hears and then acts upon our prayers. Our praying results in the LORD sending out laborers.

Application: Will you commit to asking the LORD to send more workers whose hearts are filled of God's Spirit? Will you pray for your own life to be a worker in God's field? Will you pray for others to become workers in God's field?