

WE ARE: Kingdom

Week 4

Last week we read through 1 Corinthians 13, speaking about love. Love compels us to see. It compels us to look up and see people. Jesus' ministry started with seeing. In Matthew 9 - *he saw the crowds... Like sheep without a shepherd.*

Matthew 9

And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.

KEY PRINCIPLE

Our mission is To glorify God by making disciples of all peoples.

All peoples

- Nations
- Neighbors
- Next Generation

NATIONS

We get to equip and send people to go be light in the darkness.

Romans 10:13-15

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!

^ This is not something we as a church delegate to a few people in the church. How are they to GO unless they are SENT.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Do you feel that the Lord is calling you to go or to send?

Go - some will go

Send - *many of us will send*

Pray - *we will get the invitation today from Jesus to ask for laborers*

Welcome - *the nations of the world are here*

Instead of having a love for America that breeds nationalism - we have a love for America that breeds stewardship.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

What does that look like to have stewardship over where the Lord has put you?

Revelation 7:9

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

What will worship be like in eternity? – Gathering of the nations. Every nation worshipping before the throne of Jesus.

NEIGHBORS

Who is my neighbor? Jesus uses the parable of the good Samaritan.

The Samaritan sees, loves, stops, and cares for him.

Who was the neighbor? The one who showed mercy.

Jesus says: go and do likewise

The love for neighbor translated into being able to see, being able to; even in the midst of inconvenience and sacrifice, love. That's what neighbor love looks like.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Who are YOUR neighbors? Who is your sphere of influence?

Who is far from God and close to you?

Luke 10:1-9

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. And he said to them, The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, Peace be to this house! And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick in it and say to them, The kingdom of God has come near to you.

TRUTHS:

- Urgency of the gospel - laborers are few
- JESUS gives an invitation - ASK Him.
- Sent in Twos - Family of God Represented.
- **Look for People of Peace. Look for people who are responding to you.**
- The kingdom of God has come near to you.

Outward reality of living on Mission: kingdom... We are Ambassadors - We Represent JESUS.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

How are you living as an ambassador?

Jesus is ALREADY there. How will I join Jesus in the work that he is already doing?

NEXT GENERATION

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Parents - it is your responsibility to teach diligently your children - and we are partners with you in that.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

How does that translate to you, when you don't have children?

Being part of the kingdom is not just a mandate - it's a mission. A privileged mission.