



CHURCH

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“Matthew 9:35-38” on September 13th

CONNECT

How did last week’s passage we read/discussed from Matthew 9:9-17 affect your week?

DISCOVER: MATTHEW 9:18-34

What did the passage say or did you take away from the sermon this week?

How does this passage/did this sermon point us to Jesus or teach us about Jesus?

These four power-packed verses are given a unique setting in Matthew’s gospel – right between story after story of Jesus’ authority over disease, death, and demons and Jesus’ sending out His disciples in Chapter 10. In his sermon on this passage, Jason emphasized that WE, like the disciples, are AMBASSADORS for Jesus. Let’s look at these verses from the disciples’/ambassadors’ eyes:

Matthew 9:35 “Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.” – The disciples saw that Jesus was not selective for just the Jewish nation; He came for ALL the people in “all the towns and villages.” They saw Jesus teach, preach the good news, and heal EVERY disease. They were being trained to be sent out, as we as ambassadors are being trained to be sent out as we study His Word to share with ALL the people.

- If someone asked you to explain what the ‘good news’ in this passage was all about, how would you explain the good news and its message?
- How does v.35 convict you to be a more effective ambassador in encouraging others to seek a relationship with Jesus?

Matthew 9:36 “When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.” – The disciples would have noticed that Jesus SAW the needs of the people and had compassion on them. As ambassadors for Jesus, do we SEE peoples’ needs around us? Do we see them as Jesus sees them? Do we feel compassion for them?

- What might ‘harassed and helpless’ look like in our world today?
- How could you help people realize that God SEES them on the inside and cares for them?
- Jason used this expression to describe the way Jesus related to people: “I see you’re hurting; how can I help you?” How could you apply that kind of compassion in your world this week?
- Jesus uses the Church to help meet the needs of others. How effective is the Church today at stepping into the gap to love, help and serve the harassed and helpless....or is the Church putting all its efforts into perfecting itself?
- Jesus is the Good Shepherd who spent His time serving people; as His ambassadors, what are practical ways we can point His children to Him and assure them they are His children?

Matthew 9:37-38 “Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.” – Jesus instructed the disciples to ASK the Lord of the harvest to send out workers! This highlights the importance of prayer preceding action in preparing for the harvest of God’s children!

- Jesus is encouraging a specific prayer request here; how important is prayer in your life and your activity as an ambassador for Jesus?
- Jason used the idea that at harvest time, a tractor never stays in the same place in the field – it has to cover the entire field to gather in the harvest. How is your tractor doing in your field of harvest? Is it moving in circles or spanning the whole field?



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RESPOND

In these politically-charged, strange times, being an ambassador can be challenging when we have so many differences with people. How will you use the opportunity to love and serve others even when you disagree – to realize people aren't the enemy, they're the MISSION?

Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you as you watch CU Church online next week?

PRAY

Praying for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.

KEEP READING

Ephesians 2:11-18 where Paul talks about the gospel of Jesus is for all the people. John 10:1-18 on Jesus as the Good Shepherd.