1 Life Sermon Series Week of September 7

Warm Up

- What's the hardest job you've ever had, and what made it tough?
- Have you ever done work where you felt underappreciated or undervalued? How did that affect you?
- What's one job or responsibility you've had that gave you a real sense of purpose?
- How do you usually respond when someone shows you gratitude for your efforts?

Dig-In

In verse 2 Jesus says, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few."

- What does this reveal about God's mission in the world?
- Why do you think so many hesitate to step into the role of a "worker" in the kingdom?

In verse 3 Jesus says, "Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves."

- What does this image teach us about the challenges of following Jesus in the world?
- How have you experienced opposition or resistance when living out your faith?

In verse 7 Jesus says, "The worker deserves his wages."

- Why do you think Jesus emphasizes the value of those who labor in His name?
- How can we as a church or community honor and support those who serve faithfully in God's work?

In verse 9 Jesus instructs them to heal the sick and announce, "The kingdom of God has come near."

- How do you see healing and proclamation working together in the mission of Jesus?
- What does it look like for us to bring the kingdom of God near to others today?

In verses 17–20 the seventy-two return with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."

- Why do you think they were so excited about this?
- How does Jesus redirect their focus when He tells them to rejoice that their names are written in heaven?

Wrap Up

- Where might God be sending you to "work the harvest" this week, even in small ways?
- How can you both serve faithfully and also learn to celebrate the right things?

Ask

Lord, thank You for calling me to share in Your mission. Teach me to serve with joy, honor the work of others, and rejoice most of all that my name is written in heaven.