

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Matthew 9:35-38

Digging In

1. **Read Matthew 9:35-38.** What are the main points that Matthew makes in summarizing Jesus' ministry? (Cf. Matt 4:23)
2. Jesus did not live in a monastery. He was out among the crowds. How can we follow his example?
3. How did Jesus respond when he saw the crowds?
4. Why did he have compassion on them?
5. What do you think it means that the people were harassed and helpless?
6. How are people around us *harassed and helpless* today?
7. How can we respond with compassion? Be specific.
8. In what ways is the harvest plentiful today?
9. Why do you think we often fail to see the harvest around us? What kinds of things can keep us from seeing the harvest?
10. The clear command of v. 38 is to pray for more workers. What are some specific ways we can do this?



Getting Personal

- Taking an honest self-inventory, would you say that you have eyes of faith to see the crowds around us as a potential harvest?
- How about if those crowds are made up of people from different cultures ... like the Samaritans?
- Think of your friends and neighbors who don't yet know the Lord. Is there a need to which God is calling you to respond with compassion?
- How can we as a church family develop a greater concern for the harvest around us? How can we learn to see the harvest the way Jesus does?
- How can we make prayer for workers a regular part of our lives – as individuals, as families, and in our small groups?
- Why is sharing the good news an essential part of showing compassion? (Romans 10:13-15)

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