

10-24-21
The Lord's Call For Laborers
THE CALL TO BE INVOLVED IN MISSIONS

Matthew 9:35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

Matthew 9:36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

Matthew 9:37 Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly [is] plenteous, but the labourers [are] few;

Matthew 9:38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

Matthew 10:1 And when he had called unto [him] his twelve disciples, he gave them power [against] unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

This is missions month.. and next Sunday we will be closing out our month with our missions conference. Wednesday through Sunday we will have guests speakers each night and all day Sunday. Let me encourage you to attend our special meetings. It is good to hear other men of God and be challenged spiritually to consider our need to be about our Lord's business.

Now this morning, I want to talk to you about our Lord's Call for Recruits for his harvest field.

If you want to be favored of the Lord be about his business of spreading the gospel message. My Bible says,

Romans 10:15 How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

God looks at those who work in his harvest field as beautiful in his sight.

Jesus gave a call for his disciples to pray for labourers in his harvest field. I believe that call is still there.

Paul said this about his obligation to be about sharing the message of the gospel..

I Corinthians 9:16 For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!

Paul puts us all to shame when we think of the sacrifices he made to share the gospel message. His temptations, persecutions, hardships that he endured yet he never did quit kept going and kept serving.

Now this morning I want to read our text one more time before we start our message:

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In this passage we read about our Lord looking at the multitudes with compassion and a desire to help them. Now think about who our lord was.. He was eternal God who come down and added to himself flesh. He was all powerful, all knowing, could perform miracles, and heal all manner of sicknesses, and

demonic possession and oppression. Certainly he should have been sufficient to the task of ministering to the multitudes. Yet he says, he was not! He needed labourers to do the work. If Jesus could not possibly do the work alone what makes us think we could.

Jesus in this passage makes a call for labourers. Will you heed that call?

Let us consider our Lord's call for recruits..

I. WE NEED TO GET A VISION FOR THE NEED FOR MISSIONS

Our text says,

Matthew 9:36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

Jesus saw the multitude and had compassion on them. He saw them as sheep having no shepherd. Now let me ask you when you see people what do you see?

Now the truth is that most people move to our area to get away from people.

We need to see as Christ sees... the question is do we?

Most people when they see congestion of people, they think what a pain.. these people are in my way. I think of the Christmas season, when people are competing to get a parking spot. It's like this.. every man for himself. What is funny is that these delicate woman, who are so fragile and petite.. get them behind a wheel and they are merciless.

I remember years ago when I was out Christmas shopping one time, this I was moving slowly through the aisles and this lady with tattoos all over her arms she weighed about 300 lbs, she literally snarled at me and actually threatened me bodily harm.

Now sometimes, it is hard to have compassion on people when you have a experience like this with the multitudes. However, we need to realize people are lost and they are headed for a Christ less Hell without Christ in their hearts.

We need to rise above our reclusiveness. our selfish nature, and we need to decide to have compassion on the multitudes. There was a time when we were without Christ and we were rude crude and nasty. I hope you are no longer that.

When I first heard the simplicity of the gospel my exact words were ... "If the gospel be true, then what Kind of person would I be not to share it with others..."

If I had a cure for Covid, what kind of person would I be not to share it.. If I had a cure for cancer and kept it to myself I would be guilty.. In our video the cure, I tell the story of Pasteur, who discovered germs, who believed that a lot of women's lives could be spared if doctors would just wash their hands between patients. They laughed him to scorn.. the so called experts could not believe what they could not see.

Now do we really believe people are going to die and go to hell without Christ if they do not get saved? Is it true.. is it a lie? Now just like Pasteur people may laugh at us, and ridicule us.. But what Kind of people are we if we do not share this message.

Do you know there is a lot more at stake than this covid problem. A lot worse could happen to a person than they get covid. they could die and go to Hell..

We have the cure for something a lot worse than covid.. why keep it to ourselves.

1st we need to have compassion on the multitudes and not get angry at them..

We need to have compassion and not try to be a recluse and get away from people.....

Jesus said we are to be lights..

Matthew 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

Matthew 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

When does a light shine it's brightest..

It shines it's brightest when it is darkest out side.

We need to see as Christ sees.,.

We need to love as Christ loved..

When he was dying for the sins of the world, when they were mocking and scourging him.. and spitting on him.. and railing at him..

He said, "Father forgive them they know not what they do.. "

When that little lady cuts us off what do we do.. HONK HONK.. We put our fist in the air.. scream at them.. Now what are we going to do hand them a track..

Tell them they are going to hell and we can't wait till they get there..

When Jesus saw the multitudes

When Jesus saw the bottle necked traffic jams..

He had compassion on them.. we aren't to scream at them.

I think of a friend of mine.. if there were a traffic jam and everyone was at a dead stop he would get out of his car and start putting tracks on windshields.

I remember one time when he got on an elevator and it was back in the day when they had an elevator operator, and the operator said, going up .. and he said.. ALL THE WAY.. and handed the operator a track.

CAN WE SEE AS JESUS SAW..

We need compassion

He saw the multitudes that were lost with no direction..

AND HE HAD COMPASSION ON THE MULTITUDES..

II. THEN WE NEED TO SEE THE THE LACK OF LABORERS..

The work is great the labourers are few..

When Jesus saw a sin sick world filled with lost people instead of getting upset at them he had compassion on them knowing what they really needed was the gospel. So he said what we need is workers. Laborers..

There are some things that you cannot go alone. People need one on one contact and discipleship.

There was a multitude, why could Jesus just not set up a podium start preaching and tell them what they need to do and solve all their problems. WHY THE NEED FOR LABORERS?

If Jesus said, he needed labourers to do the work.. how much more do we need labourers, today?

A lot of people think they do their duty towards God when they listen to a sermon on Sunday. Jesus did not say he needs hearers to learn about the harvest.. HE SAID HE NEEDS LABORERS IN THE HARVEST..

Are you a hearer of the word or are you a doer of the word..

A labourer is a doer of the word..

Luke 6:46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

It reminds me of a friend who I knew when I was a bible college student. He called me one day and said, what are doing Frank. I said, I am working on my car. I have to get it inspected and there are some rust spots on the body and the mechanic said he won't inspect it unless the spots are filled in. So he said, I'll come over and help you. I thought boy that is nice of him.

So about 5-10 minutes latter he shows up. He pulls up with his car and he comes over with a lawn chair and sits down and takes out a magazine and watches me sand down the rust spots on the care and fill it in with bondo and tin. Now that is how some people labour for God. They think they do God a service by putting in their time sitting in a lawn chair relaxing.

But you may say preacher I have no experience serving God what can I do?

There are plenty of things you can do!!!

1st the Bible says this:

Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

Ephesians 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

My job is to provoke you to love and good works and get you to do the work of the ministry. What is the work of the ministry?

The Greek word for ministry is the word diakonia.. from which we get the word deacon. It means to be a servant, to run errands, to wait on tables, to give relief, to minister, to give attendance to ..

diakonia, dee-ak-on-ee'-ah; from 1249; attendance (as a servant, etc.); fig. (eleemosynary) aid, (official) service (espec. of the Chr. teacher, or techn. of the diaconate):- (ad-) minister (-ing, -tration, -try), office, relief, service (-ing).

----- Dictionary Trace -----

diakonos, dee-ak'-on-os; prob. from an obs. diako (to run on errands;

comp. 1377); an attendant, i.e. (gen.) a waiter (at table or in other menial duties); spec. a Chr. teacher and pastor (techn. a deacon or deaconess):-deacon, minister, servant.

I think one of the greatest speeches and statements ever given by a president of the United States was when John F. Kennedy said,

"Ask not what your country can do for you but ask what you can do for your country.. "

This embodies the concept of service. Today our country is being destroyed by all the handouts, bail outs, welfare and entitlement programs.

What Democrat president would ever repeat what Kennedy said, and mean it! The number one reason these politicians are for open borders is because they are pushing for these illegals to vote and they know they will vote for their liberal agenda.

What does the work of the ministry involve?

There are many many ministries..

1. THE MINISTRY OF HELPS.. The first deacons delivered food to the elderly..

You know brother Floyd drops off food almost every week at the church.. it would be a good ministry to go around and distribute that food to people and invite them to church.. give them a tract..

2. THE MINISTRY INVOLVES SERVING.. WHAT ARE SOME AREAS YOU CAN SERVE IN THE ASSEMBLY?

Get involved in greeting people, when they come to church,
Get involved in cleaning the church..
Get involved in helping with the missions closet..
Get involved in taking a new visitor in the church under wing..
Get involved in bringing a covered dish to our dinners,
Get involved in handing out flyers and inviting people to our meetings..
Get involved in Church workdays..
Get involved in Maintenance projects in the church..
Get involved in Choir.. Patch Club.. Sunday School substitute.. or teacher..
Get involved in ushering, prayer support.. handing out tracts..

3. THE MINISTRY INVOLVES MISSIONS OUTREACH..

Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Romans 10:14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

Romans 10:15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Pray for labourers to go into the harvest.

How shall they go unless they are sent?

Who sends them? Churches send out representatives into the harvest field..

* Either you go.. or

* You support others who go..

All of us are to be teamed up and working towards this great work of outreach..

Paul wrote to the Corinthians about their obligation to support God's servants and ministers.. he wrote..

A. *Paul wrote to the Corinthians and warned that he was boasting to others about their generous giving to the cause..*

Apparently Paul was writing about the relief they were giving to the saints in Jerusalem that were suffering persecution..

Romans 15:26 For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem.

Romans 15:27 It hath pleased them verily; and their debtors they are. For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things.

II Corinthians 9:1 For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you:

II Corinthians 9:2 For I know the forwardness of your mind, for which I boast of you to them of Macedonia, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and your zeal hath provoked very many.

II Corinthians 9:3 Yet have I sent the brethren, lest our boasting of you should be in vain in this behalf; that, as I said, ye may be ready:

B. *Our giving to the work of preaching the gospel should be from a cheerful heart and not out of girding or necessity..*

GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER..

II Corinthians 9:6 But this [I say], He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

II Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, [so let him give]; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

II Corinthians 9:8 And God [is] able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all [things], may abound to every good work:

C. *PAUL SAYS THAT THEIR GIVING TO OTHER MINISTERS INCREASED THEIR FRUIT AND THEY RECEIVED CREDIT*

II Corinthians 9:9 (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever.

II Corinthians 9:10 Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for [your] food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;)

II Corinthians 9:11 Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God.

II Corinthians 9:12 For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God;

II Corinthians 9:13 Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for [your] liberal distribution unto them, and unto all [men];

II Corinthians 9:14 And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you.

Be assured, God notes your giving and sacrifices for His work and will reward you accordingly.

GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER..

In another place he says this..

I Timothy 6:17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;
I Timothy 6:18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;
I Timothy 6:19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

Our giving, is one way that we are involved in the ministry.

By proxy we support God's workers, and we will receive a reward accordingly..

This month we encourage people to consider their involvement in Missions and supporting missionaries..

The Lord said, pray for more labourers in God's harvest field. We make that possible by supporting men of God who are sent to different parts of the world where we cannot physically go.. They go for us and our support for them means we are partakers of their work...

First we tithe to support our local work.. the tithe is 10% of what God gives to you, you give back to him for the support of his work.

Missions giving is an amount you choose to trust God to help you give each week above your tithe to support the spreading of the gospel around the world by helping send out missionaries.

III. WE NEED TO PRAY TO GOD TO TOUCH HEARTS AND CONVICT PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED... Pray to send forth labourers into the harvest..

The Lord said, PRAY FOR WORKERS..

Matthew 9:38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

Do you know we need to pray for labourers in the harvest field.

At our workers meeting, it was mentioned that it would be good if God were to lead someone to our church to help with the work. I said, we need to pray for labourers. We need to pray for someone to come help here to be a Laborer in God's harvest field..

But we also need to pray for labourers to go into the whole world.

There has been a steady decrease of missionaries being sent out!
THIS IS NOT GOOD!

Pray for the need..

We need to start praying everyday that the Lord would help us to witness..
We need to pray for God to send others out..
We need to pray for the spreading of the gospel.

I noticed.. that in my regular prayers I do not pray this prayer but I am going to start. Why?

JESUS COMMANDED US TO PRAY THIS PRAYER..

IV. WE NEED TO BE GIVEN POWER TO GO.. AND WITNESS..

OUR LORD'S CALL FOR US TO GET INVOLVED IN THE GREAT COMMISSION

Matthew 10:1 And when he had called unto [him] his twelve disciples, he gave them power [against] unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

It was not until the day of Pentecost that the disciples were able to be effective in their commission to get the gospel out.

Not only do we need to ..

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We need compassion

He saw the multitudes that were lost with no direction..

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The work is great the labourers are few..

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IV. WE NEED TO BE GIVEN POWER TO GO.. AND WITNESS..

We need to pray that we would be filled with the spirit of Christ to be his witnesses. The Spirit of God needs to accompany our words.

Luke 11:11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if [he ask] a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

Luke 11:12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

Luke 11:13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall [your] heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Think about this.. if we are evil and we would want to give good things to our children.. the Bible says how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask..

If we sincerely ask for his Spirit God our heavenly Father will give that spirit to us. This is a promise. We can take him at his word.

Also this we can know. That the Holy Spirit is given to us to help us be a witness for Him! It is not something he gives us to glorify us.. it is something he gives us to glorify HIMSELF!!!

Invitation:

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III. WE NEED TO PRAY TO GOD TO TOUCH HEARTS AND CONVICT PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED... Pray to send forth labourers into the harvest..

IV. WE NEED TO BE GIVEN POWER TO GO.. AND WITNESS OURSELVES..