

Sermon #5

The Lesson of the Harvest, the Helpless, and You



Matthew 9:35-38

July 09, 2017

Discuss Sermon

The choices we make in critical moments help to form us and to inform others about who we are. – **John Maxwell**

Our choices matter more than we could ever imagine. As we look to Matthew 9:35-38, we learn from Jesus Christ that the choices we make at critical moments in life (1) Show us who we really are, (2) Declare to others who we are, and (3) determine who we will become. Jesus lays out a challenge for His followers to seize these defining moments in life and become prayer warriors that pray for workers for the harvest and pray for the lost.

- What does it mean to pray for workers for the harvest?
- What does it look like to pray for workers for the harvest in practical ways?

Exchange Views

“In every age there comes a time when a leader must come forward to meet the needs of the hour. Therefore, there is no potential leader who does not have an opportunity to make a positive difference in society. Tragically, there are times when a leader does not rise to the hour. What kind of leader will you be?”

– **Winston Churchill**

Jesus Christ set us an example to go where no one else would go, to speak to the weak, to preach to the unreached, and to serve the undeserved. If you want to change your community, your country, your family, or your life then start with taking this first step and follow the plan of the Lord to pray, teach, and reach others for Christ.

- What is the need of our hour as Christians today?
- How can you become a part of the solution?

Examine Text – Matthew 9:35-38

Read the main text from the sermon and reflect on the key words, phrases, and lessons that God is teaching us.

- What are the key lessons that you learn from this text?
- What commands are given from Jesus Christ in this text? Does this still apply today?

Personalize Truth

“God shapes the world by prayer. Prayers outlive the lives of those who uttered them; outlive a generation, outlive an age, outlive a world.” – **E. M. Bounds**

If you want to leave a legacy that impacts generations then begin with prayer. The truth is that you can impact generations and even the world from your living room as you begin actively praying for the harvest. Pray for workers and pray for the lost and you will see God move mightily.

- Make a list of at least three people that are far from the Lord. Begin praying for their salvation, restoration, or deliverance every day for the next 30 days.
- Discuss two ways how you can arm yourself with a better attitude this week.

Three Ways to Pray for Others

Try these three steps that will help you follow in the footsteps of Christ and pray for others.

Step #1 – Pray for a Heart of Humility

1 Peter 5:5-7 – ^{5b}Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” ⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Step #2 – Pray for the People to Hear, Obey, and Live for the Lord

Jeremiah 7:27-28 – ²⁷“So you shall speak all these words to them, but they will not listen to you. You shall call to them, but they will not answer you. ²⁸And you shall say to them, ‘This is the nation that did not obey the voice of the Lord their God, and did not accept discipline; truth has perished; it is cut off from their lips.’”

Step #3 – Pray for Godly Leaders to Lead

2 Timothy 2:2 – and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

How to Use This Study Guide: This guide can be used by individuals, families, & small groups to gain a deeper understanding of God’s Word. Each section is organized in these areas: **D.E.E.P.** = Discuss Sermon, Exchange Views, Examine Text, and Personalize Truth.