

# The Laborer

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## Jesus Ministry: Matthew 9:35-38

Matthew Vs 35: And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. 36: When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37: Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; 38: therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

1. And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction.

a. Vs 35 is showing us what Jesus was doing. What He was all about. Proclaiming that the Kingdom of God is close and brings life transformation and healing in others' lives.

b. Vs 36 shows us that Jesus was driven by compassion, by Love for the lost which drove Him to look at His disciples and say verse 37-38

2. Then in *Matthew chapter 10* Jesus gives the disciples His authority to do what? Everything that He has been doing.

3. Do you know what Jesus' desire for His disciples is? His desire is that we would be, and love like Him.

4. Jesus is teaching His disciples who He wants them to be and what He wants them to do. Because identity always precedes activity. Do you get that?

Who you are is way more important than what you do.

Jesus's desire for the laborer is that they would be, and love like Him.

The laborer is a prayer who is being transformed by Christ.

5. However, Jesus, driven by His compassion for the crowds of lost people who need His touch, looks at His disciples and doesn't tell them to strap up and go... He tells them to pray. Read verse 38.

Vs 38 therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

6. Matthew 10: 8-10 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. 9 Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, 10 no bag for your journey, or two tunics or sandals or a staff, for the laborer deserves his food. Go but don't take anything because I am going to take care of you.

7. Matthew 10: 19-20. Vs 19 When they deliver you over, do not be anxious about how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. 20 For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

Conclusion:

1. Jesus's desire for the laborer is that they would be and love like Him
2. The laborer is a prayer who is being transformed by Christ and

8. Matthew chapter 9: 37-39. 37 Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. 39 Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

What do you feel when you hear these verses?

What emotions does it bring in you? Is it fear? Is it apathy?

Whatever it is, remember, first and foremost a laborer is a prayer. Bring these emotions to Him. Your Heavenly Father desires to commune with you. The place to start is on your knees before the Lord. He will give you what you need and the direction you must go but regardless of WHERE it is, you will proclaim this message, and as a result you will be persecuted.