



DIGGING DEEPER

Matthew 9v35–10v5 – Opportunity

PLEASE READ – Matthew 9v35-10v5

GETTING STARTED

What do you think of when you hear the word mission or missionary?

Do you think the word ‘worker’ that Jesus uses in v37 and v38 is a more helpful term? Why? Why not? Discuss...

1) JESUS SEES CLEARLY (V35-36)

Why do you think the crowds are gathering?

As Jesus looks out on these crowds – what does he see? What does Ezekiel 34 (v1-16) add to your understanding of what Jesus came to do?

Why is it so important that we begin see people as Jesus does?

2) JESUS CARES DEEPLY (V36)

How would you describe the word ‘compassion’ to someone who didn’t know what it meant? How is it different to feeling sorry for someone?

3) JESUS EMBRACES FULLY (V37)

What does Jesus mean when he says the harvest is plentiful? What does he not mean? Do you see a big opportunity?

Discuss the problem that Jesus identifies as well as his use of the word 'workers'

4) JESUS PRAYS EARNESTLY (V38)

Does the response of Jesus to this problem surprise you in any way?

How is that prayer most immediately answered? (See chapter 10v1-5). In what ways does that challenge you?

As we pray to the 'Lord of the harvest' we remember all that God is. How does that encourage you?

Will you do what Jesus says and make that your prayer this year?

Meditate on the words of the Jesus below...

Matthew 9v37-38: Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.'