

Alderwood Community Church
November 4, 2018

Living a Life of Service: Loving Our City
Close: The Importance of Following Jesus Closely
Matthew 9:35-38
(Page 790, 964 or 974)

*"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." **Matthew 9:36***

Big Idea: When we follow Jesus closely we will be just as concerned with the demonstration of the Gospel as we are with the proclamation of the Gospel.

1. _____ **to meet the needs of people in our city. (9:37-38)**
 - A. Ask God _____ Jesus followers into the harvest field.

 - B. Ask God _____ a heart of _____ just like Jesus'. (**Leviticus 19:9-10; Deuteronomy 14:28-29, Deuteronomy 15:10-11; Proverbs 14:31, 19:17**)

 - C. Ask God to _____ people as Jesus sees them. (**Matthew 14:14, 15:32, 20:34; Mark 1:41, 6:34**)

2. _____ **as Jesus sees them. (9:36)**

3. _____ **Jesus' _____ for them. (9:35) (1 John 3:16-18)**

A. Go to them and engage them.

B. Listen carefully to their story to learn their needs.

C. Lovingly meet their needs.

Sermon Questions:

1. Review your notes from the sermon. Is there a truth that stood out to you?

Read **Matthew 9:35-10:1** several times.

2. What were the elements of Jesus' ministry?

Which do you think was most important? Why?

3. In v.36 we read that when Jesus saw the crowds He was moved with compassion. What does it mean to be “harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd”?

Is there a certain kind of person whose needs move you to compassion? Why do they generate compassion in you? How are they like “sheep without a shepherd”?

4. Think of the people in your sphere of influence. Do you see them as Jesus sees them? If so, what do you do to help you see people as Jesus does?

5. Jesus told His followers that the “harvest is plentiful”. What was Jesus talking about?

Was the “harvest” plentiful only in Jesus’ day or is it also today? Where do you see a potentially plentiful harvest for ACC?

6. Jesus makes it a point to tell His followers to pray (v. **38**). Why is prayer so important?
7. A couple of weeks ago Pastor Curtis encouraged us to pray for people in our lives who don’t know Jesus. For whom are you praying? What are you asking God to do? How have you seen God work?