

Command of Christ → Pray for Laborers
Character quality → Compassion
6-4-08

Matthew 9:38 –AMP *“Pray to the Lord of the harvest to force out and thrust laborers into His harvest.”*

If the farmer worked like the current church, he would plow in the barn, plant in the barn, pray that it would rain in the barn, harvest in the barn, then burn down the barn and call it a revival.

Harvest

- The end of the growing cycle.
- Requires the most effort in the shortest amount of time.

*** Could it be that the “harvest” is the fruit of all the seed that has been sown as a result of the fall? What did Jesus encounter in Chapter 9?

- A paralyzed man (v.2)
- A ruler whose daughter had died (v.18)
- A woman with the issue of blood (v.20)
- Two blind men (v.27)
- A mute man who was demon possessed (v.32)

Read verses 35-37

- Jesus saw the throngs of desperate people. ([vision](#) - that sees the need)
- He was moved with sympathy. ([compassion](#) - that motivates us to action)
- He spoke the solution. ([multiplication of ministry](#) – for the others to do what He did in v. 35)
 - In the following chapter He commissioned the disciples.

Jesus is the Lord of the harvest.

The harvest is His.

Why then do we need laborers? [To bring the kingdom to others.]

Laborers -

- Those who will work.
 - Not every one wants to work.
- Those who will give birth.
 - Requires maturity / responsibility / selflessness.

Pray

- Pray that they arise and emerge (come forth) among us.
- Pray that they have strength to labor.
- Pray that they labor in their place of greatest effectiveness.

Most of the time, we are the answer to our own prayers.

Labor requires exertion – but spiritual labor can energize.

- Hebrews 4 – We are to labor to enter His rest → by His grace!
- His grace enables us. (1 Peter 4:10)
- His anointing empowers us. (Acts 1:8)