



Matthew 9:36-38

[36] When he saw the crowds, he felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd.

[37] Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few.

[38] Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." NKJV Jesus looked at the crowds following him and referred to them as a field ripe for harvest, but the laborers to bring in the harvest are few. These "laborers" were the disciples, then few in number. Jesus commanded his disciples to pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers. The "Lord of the harvest" refers to God. The verb translated "send out" is a strong term, meaning to "thrust forth." In this context it speaks of a strong push to get workers into the field. These laborers must warn people of coming judgment and call them to repentance. Many people are ready to give their lives to Christ if someone would show them how. We are to pray that people will respond to this need for workers. Often, when we pray for something, God answers our prayers by using us. Be prepared for God to use you to show another person the way to Him.

ESSENTIALS

For a Healthy Church

OCTOBER 20, 2024



MATTHEW 9:37
THEN HE SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES, THE HARVEST IS ABUNDANT ...

EYES TO SEE

3
THINGS NEEDED

ESSENTIALS

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MATTHEW 9:37
... BUT THE WORKERS ARE FEW.

HEARTS TO OBEY

3
THINGS NEEDED

ESSENTIALS

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MATTHEW 9:38
THEREFORE, PRAY TO THE LORD OF THE HARVEST TO
SEND OUT WORKERS INTO HIS HARVEST.

FEET TO WALK IN FAITH

3
THINGS NEEDED

Jesus uses this section is that of the harvest. Sowing and reaping go on together. Jesus speaks of reaping the harvest of God's acts in salvation history. This is evident also in John 4:35–38 where, having referred to the fields white unto harvest, He tells the disciples that they are entering in upon other men's labors. The parallel passages (Luke 10:1–2 and Mark 6:34) emphasize the importance of this section, in that it appears in all four of the Gospels. The message to his disciples is clear: the harvest is great, the laborers are few. The admonition is to pray God to send out laborers into His harvest. The fact that it is God's harvest is the key which interprets the vision of need and the commission to follow.