

Wednesday Night Fellowship Discussion Guide  
5/31/23

**Passage Summary**

On Sunday Missionary Dan Gardner challenged us to be motivated toward missions because of love. In Matthew 9:35-38 we are shown the love of Jesus for those who need to be saved from their sin. Jesus was motivated to minister to them because of His love for them and Jesus calls his disciples to be motivated by love for others as well.

Matthew 9:35-38

<sup>35</sup> 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. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup> therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

**Discussion Questions**

God's love moves us to salvation

How could the people to whom Jesus was ministering understand and experience of the love of God for them?

In what way can we point people toward the love of God when we are witnessing to them today?

God's love will move us to pray

Matthew 9:36

<sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

What does it mean to have compassion?

In what two ways did Jesus see their needs? How are people in a similar position today?

God's love will move us to pray and to go

Matthew 9:37–38

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.”

For what does Jesus command His disciples to pray? Why?

Does God intend for us to be either someone who prays for someone who labors or both? How do we know?

Toward which of those two activities do you most naturally lean? What can you do to increase the one that is more difficult for you?