

Title: Where are my labourers

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Matthew 5:13 – 16 (NLT) ¹³ You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavour? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. ¹⁴ You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

Matthew 28:18 – 20 ¹⁸ Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 9:37 – 38 ³⁷ Then Jesus said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the labourers are few. ³⁸ Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest."

1 Corinthians 3:9 (AMP) For we are fellow workmen (joint promoters, labourers together) with and for God; you are God's garden and vineyard and field under cultivation, [you are] God's building.

John 4:3-8, 25-35 ³ So Jesus left Judea and returned to Galilee. ⁴ He had to go through Samaria on the way. ⁵ Eventually He came to the Samaritan village of Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there; and Jesus, tired from the long walk, sat wearily beside the well about noontime. ⁷ Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, & Jesus said to her, "Please give Me a drink." ⁸ He was alone at the time because His disciples had gone into the village to buy some food... ²⁵ The woman said, "I know the Messiah is coming—the One who is called Christ. When He comes, He will explain everything to us." ²⁶ Then Jesus told her, "I AM the Messiah!" ²⁷ Just then His disciples came back. They were shocked to find Him talking to a woman, but none of them had the nerve to ask, "What do You want with her?" or "Why are You talking to her?" ²⁸ The woman left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, ²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could He possibly be the Messiah?" ³⁰ So the people came streaming from the village to see Him. ³¹ Meanwhile, the disciples were urging Jesus, "Rabbi, eat something." ³² But Jesus replied, "I have a kind of food you know nothing about." ³³ "Did someone bring Him food while we were gone?" the disciples asked each other. ³⁴ Then Jesus explained: "My nourishment comes from doing the will of God, who sent Me, and from finishing His work. ³⁵ You know the saying, 'Four months between planting and harvest.' But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest."

Labourer's focus is always on the harvest

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Jesus' focus on the harvest

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Labourer's motivation is compassion for the harvest

Matthew 9:35-36 ³⁵ Jesus travelled through all the towns & villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues & announcing the Good News about the Kingdom & He healed every kind of disease & illness. ³⁶ When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them because they were confused & helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Start to pray for the harvest

Matthew 9:38 "So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask Him to send more workers into His fields."

Get involved with the harvest

1 Corinthians 9:19 - 23 ¹⁹ For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them...²² To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

Labourers' challenge to die to self

Mark 8:34 – 36, 38 ³⁴ Jesus said to His disciples also, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. ³⁵ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, & loses his own soul? ³⁸ For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous & sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

Matthew 8:19 - 23 ¹⁹ Then one of the teachers of religious law said to Him, Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go. ²⁰ But Jesus replied, Foxes have dens to live in & birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay His head. ²¹ One of His disciples said, Lord, first let me return home & bury my father. ²² But Jesus told him, "Follow Me now. Let the spiritually dead bury their own dead". ²³ Then Jesus got into the boat & started across the lake with His disciples.

Luke 14:16 - 24 ¹⁶ Then Jesus said to him, "A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, ¹⁷ and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' ¹⁸ But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.' ¹⁹ And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' ²⁰ Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' ²¹ So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master, being angry, said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.' ²² And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.' ²³ Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. ²⁴ For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.' "

Revelations 12:11 And they have defeated him by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimony. And they did not love their lives so much that they were afraid to die.

2 Timothy 2:20 - 21 ²⁰ But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honour and some for dishonour. ²¹ Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honour, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.