

Matthew 9:35-38 | The Workers Are Few

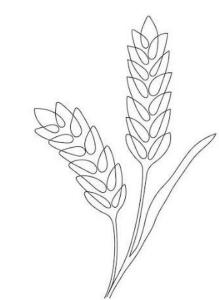
Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

1. The Workers and their home:

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."

The harvest field? The harvest? Who are these workers?

Once harvested, where does the harvest go?



Where do they go? Spiritual truth -

John 1:12-13 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to <u>become children of God</u>, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 3:3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Ephesians 2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and <u>members of</u> the household of God

Where do they go? Practically -

Matthew 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

They are invited into a <u>Church family</u> – as sons and daughters of God – to be discipled in the ways of God...

We are the Church \rightarrow

Ekklesia is a Greek word defined as "a called-out assembly or congregation." *Ekklesia* is commonly translated as "church" in the New Testament.



"The Church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members."

"The Church exists for nothing else but to draw men into Christ, to make them little Christs. If they are not doing that, all the cathedrals, clergy, missions, sermons, even the Bible itself, are simply a waste of time. God became Man for no other purpose."

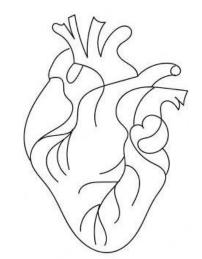
- C. S. Lewis

2. What will the harvest find here?

Let's chat...

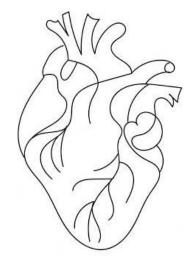
John 13:34

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 <u>By this all people will know that you are</u> <u>my disciples, if you have love for one another.</u>"



"...you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

- \rightarrow The evidence of discipleship is real care and agape love
- → The evidence of discipleship is not mere programs but the person and love of Jesus Evidence and fruit [read 1 Corinthians 13 and Galatians 5]
- \rightarrow Agape love Lay down love is the evidence of true followers and the true ekklesia
- The evidence of discipleship is love for fellow disciples Not only for the Master or for those under your care
- \rightarrow Don't try to impress or entertain the harvest, love one another and love new disciples of Jesus



John 13 | Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet 3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, 4 rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. 5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him...Peter... 12 When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? 13 You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. 16 Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

Romans 12:10-13

Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.



3. A Loving Home

Will the harvest find a loving home?

God HELPS! Love Himself...

1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

1 John 4:19 We love because he first loved us.

Romans 5:5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.



