



HOME GROUP STUDY

28th September 2025

Matthew c9 v35-c10 v22 – 2025.09.28

(A) PASSAGE

(Matthew 9) 35And 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. **36**When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for 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 labourers are few; **38**therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.”

(Matthew 10) 1And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. **2**The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; **3**Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; **4**Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

5These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, **6**but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. **7**And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ **8**Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. **9**Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, **10**no bag for your journey, or two tunics or sandals or a staff, for the laborer deserves his food. **11**And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. **12**As you enter the house, greet it. **13**And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. **14**And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. **15**Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

16“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. **17**Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, **18**and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. **19**When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. **20**For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. **21**Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, **22**and you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. **23**When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

(B) QUESTIONS

WORKING ALONGSIDE JESUS TO BRING IN A SPIRITUAL HARVEST

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Icebreaker: Has anyone had any experience of bringing in a harvest?

1. A MINISTRY OF POWER

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5These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, 6but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ 8Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons.

Q1: Why did Jesus give the disciples such power?

Q2: Do we have the same power today?

2. A MINISTRY OF POVERTY

8 You received without paying; give without pay. 9Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, 10no bag for your journey, or two tunics or sandals or a staff, for the labourer deserves his food.

Q3: Are Christians called to poverty?

3. A MINISTRY OF PEACE

11And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. 12As you enter the house, greet it. 13And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. 14And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. 15Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

Q4: How do you know the peace of God is in a house?

4. A MINISTRY OF PERSECUTION

16“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. **17**Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, **18**and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. **19**When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. **20**For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. **21**Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, **22**and you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. **23**When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

Q5: Have you every experienced persecution?

Q6: Does persecution stop the spread of the gospel?

A PRAYER

Loving Lord, thank you that you call me to work alongside you to bring in a spiritual harvest. My I know your Spirit’s power as I obey your call. Help me to hold lightly the material blessings of this life and honour you with the first fruits of my wealth. Make me a minister of peace, who even amidst difficulty and persecution, endures to the end, for the sake of your Son, my Saviour Jesus Christ and in the power of your Holy Spirit, Amen.