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WARM UP

What's something people wouldn't guess about you unless they got to know you?

WORD

Read [Matthew 9:35-38](#)

In the above passage, Jesus gives us a great pattern for reaching our neighbours out of both what He does and says.

NOTES

1 SHARE

³⁵ 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.

[Matthew 9:35](#) (ESV)

Jesus cuts the distance and goes throughout cities and villages to share the Gospel. The power of Jesus' Gospel message is experienced by people as He heals all their diseases and afflictions. We must understand that as we share the message of hope in the Gospel, it is best experienced and explained. Jesus models how both the experience of God's love and grace, and the explanation (i.e. the preaching of the Gospel message), must go hand in hand.

- Have you heard the Gospel? If you have, how did you respond? If you haven't, here's Pastor Rice Brooks' definition of it:

"The Gospel is the good news that God became man in Jesus Christ. He lived the life we should have lived and died the death we should have died, in our place. Three days later He rose from the dead, proving that He is the Son of God and offering the gift of salvation and forgiveness of sins for all who repent and believe."

2 CARE

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

[Matthew 9:36](#) (ESV)

Jesus didn't just go to where they were and preach *at* them. He had *compassion* for them, because they had no one to guide them towards the truth. Compassion not only moves your heart and emotions, but also moves you to action by seeing your position of privilege as an opportunity to serve those who find themselves "harassed and helpless".

- What do you think it would take for you to hear God and be more moved towards His cause for the broken and hopeless?

3 PRAYER

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."

[Matthew 9:37-38](#) (ESV)

Prayer is such a central part in sharing the love of God with your neighbours. Here are three important aspects of prayer that you must engage in regularly to help you reach the neighbours around you.

- 1) Pray for those you are reaching out to. Pray for their hearts and minds to be open to hearing the Gospel message.
- 2) Pray for yourself, that there would be divine opportunities to SHARE the Gospel and show the CARE of the Lord to them.
- 3) Be ready when the opportunity arises to say five words that should emerge in every conversation with unchurched people you have a relationship with: "Can I pray for you?"

PRAYER

- When it comes to share, care, and prayer, which one do you do most often? Pray for the one you would like to see strengthened in your life as you present the love of Jesus to others.
- If you are a follower of Christ, pray that God would show you how to be a light to those around you. Pray for boldness.
- Ask God to show you when there are opportunities to reach out to pre-believers so they may experience a personal relationship with Christ.