Sermon Reflections

Compassion-Driven Missions (Matthew 9:35 – 10:15)

Summary: Give out to others the compassion Christ has given you. This is the mission of His kingdom.

1. Christ's Compassion Moves Us to Missions (vv. 35-38)

- Christ was moved with compassion when He saw the people "because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." How does your compassion for the hurting move or motivate you? What are ways you can increase your level of compassion so you are more like Christ?
- Christ, seeing the "plentiful harvest," told the disciples to pray that the Lord would send laborers. Why pray? What are some ways God will answer those prayers? Pastor Zaman listed three ways. He also challenged us to pray daily for thirty days "that the Lord would send laborers into his harvest." Are you in? How can you encourage others to take his challenge?

2. Christ's Authority Empowers Us for Missions (vv. 1-4)

- Jesus chose the twelve, trained them, and gave them power to heal sickness. This was a multiplication of His ministry. What are ways you can multiply the ministry that God has given you?
- Jesus chose insignificant men. Actually, if they were known in the culture, it was mostly in a negative sense. Why would He choose such men?
- How can we have boldness like they did? What are hindrances to boldness? In what ways are you
 living, acting, speaking, and ministering with Jesus's authority? Would you want to feel sufficient
 for the task? Why?

3. Christ's Commands Direct Us for Missions (vv. 5-15)

- Pastor Zaman encouraged us to take opportunities to minister where Christ has placed us: home, school, work, neighborhood, etc. In this passage and in Matt 28:19, what is the first or primary command the Lord gave His disciples and thus to us? How is that related to man's foremost sickness?
- Matt 10:10: "A laborer deserves his food" or "a servant is worthy of his hire." What does this tell us about the value of elders, pastors, missionaries, and other ministers? In what ways can you demonstrate how much you value these workers?
- The disciples were instructed to stay with those "who are worthy" (10:11). How could they determine if someone was worthy? Why does the Lord tell of such severe judgement on those who were "unworthy" (10:15)? In this context, in what ways can you demonstrate that you and your house are worthy?