DISCIPLE 1.0: Lord of the Harvest

Jerry Cisar — July 21, 2019

Text: Matthew 9:27-38

Introduction

A. Just Go!

- B. The authority of Jesus that has been central in 5—9 is central in the mission of the church!
- C. What is the Harvest?

LIVE THE STORY

The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community. The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.

- Do you ever feel ignored by the Lord? What might the account of these two blind men tell you about that?
- Do you think it is okay that the blind men told everyone about what Jesus had done for them? Explain.
- What do you think of the following: "Bible believing churches are filled with people like this: believing all the right things about Jesus, but not obeying His commands"? Can you give examples?
- What might we learn from the story of the deaf-mute person about Jesus' power to accomplish His mission in the world?
- What does it mean to say that the church is the penultimate end, or goal, of mission?
- What does the greatness of the harvest call us to first?
- According to our text, what was the motivating drive of the mission? What might that tell us about the mission?
- What did Jesus mean when he said the people were like sheep without a shepherd?

Are You Lord of the Harvest? (27-31)

- A. Ignored by the Lord
 - i. They followed Him into the house (see 2 Samuel 5:8).
 - ii. When it seems Jesus is ignoring you, often He may in fact be drawing you in closer.
- B. Jesus warned them sternly.
 - i. They believed that Jesus was merciful, but not enough to do what He says.
 - ii. Most of us give them a pass.

Bruner: "The Christian life is not first of all lived in the glow of a wonderful experience; it is lived more soberly first of all in simple obedience to Jesus' commanding Words."

II. Absolute Lord of the Harvest (32-34)

A. Jesus is more than capable of giving speech to His disciples.

B. If the harvest is up to us, it will be limited to human ability and capacity.

III. Ask the Lord of the Harvest (35-38)

- A. Jesus was on a mission!
 - i. Where does he go?
 - ii. The church is a mission.
 - a) It is a mission field.
 - b) The church is the penultimate end, or goal, of mission.
 - iii. Jesus' mission was to bring the rule of God's peace, shalom, to the whole person by Sprit empowered means.

- B. Why does mission exist?
 - i. Because Jesus is filled with compassion.
 - ii. To compassionately care for God's sheep that are wandering the earth lost, harassed, and troubled.
- C. The Need of Mission
 - i. The Sheep getting a Shepherd.a) Numbers 27:15-18
 - b) 1 Kings 22:17
 - c) Ezekiel 34:4-6
 - d) Zechariah 10:1-4

ii. Jesus says, "Ask therefore the Lord of the Harvest!"