

INFECTIOUS

1. Enlisted

Start off with feedback from Sunday's message. What did those that were there - or those that have caught up online - take away from it? What encouraged them, what informed them and what challenged them?

Read Matthew 9.35-38

*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.'*

- v35. What do you think the Kingdom of God is in real life? What would it look like in your situation – your job, your course, your community, your area of interest? Why is it Good News? Are you invested in the promise of God's kingdom? Does it excite you?
- Matthew records Jesus' compassion – the most profound and powerful gut-wrenching emotion. Do we usually think of Jesus as being this broken and impacted by the plight of those not in relationship with him? Have you ever experienced or shared God's love for those outside the church?
- Why do we struggle to share our faith with others? What makes it difficult? What are the challenges? And what would help us be more confident with this?
- v37. *'The harvest is plentiful'*. Do we believe that there's a great deal of people that are 'ripe' for a relationship with Jesus around you? Is this an exaggeration, or is it possible that people we know are more open than we realise?
- Who are the people closest to you that you'd love to see discover a relationship with Jesus? Name them and talk about the things that currently stop them from exploring faith further.

Big Idea: 'Being infectious means catching the love of Jesus, then putting yourself into his hands to spread it to others.'

Break down into smaller groups and pray for the two or three friends that you'd each like to see discover Jesus for themselves. Pray for the Lord of the Harvest to send out 'workers' into their lives – people that can speak to them and share with them in a way they can relate. Pray for each other, for confidence and inspiration in sharing faith effectively. Pray that you catch the love of Jesus in a fresh way and that you become infectious for him.