

Matthew 9 (Workers)

Ice Breaker Idea: Share highs and/or lows (or both) from this past week.

Questions:

Read Matthew 9: 35-38

1. What do you think Jesus means by “the harvest is plentiful”? How does this relate to His description of the people in verse 36? Do you think this is still true today?
2. There is a shortage of church workers across the board – what are some factors that have led to this? What are some things that steer people away from serving professionally in the church? What are some factors that draw people into church work?
3. Professional church workers are not the only ones participating in kingdom work; in what ways can all people regardless of profession contribute to the work of God? Give specific examples from your own day to day life.
4. What encouragement can be given to existing church workers for continuation of God’s work? What encouragement can be given to potential church workers for consideration of taking on this role? What encouragement can be given to all God’s people to participate in what He is calling us to do?
5. We considered the challenge of understanding why the “workers” must ask the “farmer” to send more workers for His harvest – He wants us to ask so that He can demonstrate Himself to be a God that answers prayer. Discuss this idea for church work and for daily life.
6. If we pray that God would send out more workers, we may need to be open to being sent out ourselves? What gifts/abilities do you possess? Would you ever consider professional church work?

“Digging Deeper”

Read Matthew 9: 1-13

1. How is the ministry of Jesus typically received? Who accepts what He has to say? Who rejects what He has to say? How does this compare to today?