



Date: September 16, 2018
Scripture: Matthew 9:35-38
Series: Heart of a Disciple



“Come follow me.” Words Jesus spoke to two people who would be part of a movement that God used to transform people lives. What would it mean for Jesus to ask you to follow him? Explore the heart behind **someone who says, “I follow Jesus.”**

Matthew Overview:

Author and Date: Written by Matthew (Levi the tax collector) whom Jesus called to follow him (Matthew 9:9; Mark 2:14). Written 55-65 AD.

First readers and their location: There is no specific audience mentioned but the content of Matthew points to a Christian audience made up of primarily Jewish people.

Why was it written?: Matthew gives great attention to both the background of Jesus and how he fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies of a promised Messiah. Kingdom is a major theme in the book.

Open-up

Is there anything from the reading plan that impacted you this week?

In your life, was there a time where you witnessed or experienced an act of incredible compassion? What was it? What impact did it have on your life?



Into the Bible

Read: Matthew 9:18-38

What do you notice about the passage itself? (Structure, **repeated words or ideas, unique words, main points...**) **Ask the question, "What does it say?"** (For more help on effective Bible Study see the resources at the back)

What does this passage reveal about Jesus and the crowds?

What is unique about each section? (v. 18-26, 27-34, 35-38)
What do they reveal about miracles?

What questions does this passage raise for you?



Into my life

Ask the question, "What does this look like in my life?"

Have you ever experienced a situation like Jesus where something moved you so much you felt it in the depths of your being? What was your response?

What needs do you see around you that is gut wrenching or **stirs your heart towards compassion? Ask the question, "What makes you weep?"**

How well we love ourselves and others is at the heart of compassion? How do you need to grow in this area? What steps can you take?

Other Application Questions:

Is there something to worship or thank God for?

Is there a promise to claim or a truth to believe?

Is there something I am convicted about that I need to work on?

Is there something or someone I need to pray for this week?
(Be specific)

Is there any relationship I need to work on?



Into the World

Ask, "what does this look like in my church or world?"

What invitation might there be in this stirring in your heart towards walking with Jesus in addressing this need?

Spend time thinking and praying about Matthew 9:37, 38.

Pray for each other and for Westwood Church as we learn how to LOVE more.

Prayer List:

My challenge for this week:

More Resources for personal and group use:

<https://www.precept.org/know-gods-word/>

Emotionally Healthy Spirituality Course starting in October.

A little about Westwood Church...

We believe that God changes lives!

That motivates us to...

Bring Jesus into Life

By...

...becoming an increasingly healthy, vibrant and effective witness for Jesus in Prince George and around the world!

We do this by engaging in three things:



GATHER

Sunday mornings to celebrate and learn about God



GROUPS

Weekly meetings that go deeper in relationships with each other and God



GO

Serving in the church and community to present Jesus to the world