



THOUGHTS FROM THE MESSAGE

- ICEBREAKER - Share about a time when you felt harassed, helpless, or hurting. What were the circumstances, causes, and the aftermath of your situation?
- Read Matthew 9:35-10:1 as a group. Then, read through the following outline from Ryan's sermon.

Matthew 9 - (p. 266-267)

- "ALL the towns and villages"...the **Inclusive** life of Jesus
- "SAW the crowds"...the **Attentive** life of Jesus
- "Had COMPASSION on them"...the **Interrupted** life of Jesus
- "HARASSED and HELPLESS"...the **Affected** (Agitated) life of Jesus
- "Sheep without a SHEPHERD"...the **Intimate** (Involved) life of Jesus
- "The harvest is PLENTIFUL"...the **Urgent** life of Jesus
- "...the WORKERS are few"...the **Incomplete** life of Jesus
- "Gave them AUTHORITY"...the **Complete** life of Jesus - his Church
- "DRIVE out and HEAL"...the **Essence** of Jesus - protecting, defending, combating, curing, renewing, restoring

- The Inclusive Life of Jesus - Are there specific people, groups of people, nationalities, or otherwise that you have a hard time loving, seeing, or associating with?
- Fred Rogers said, "There isn't anyone you can't learn to love once you've heard their story." How does seeing people as harassed and helpless cause you to "learn to love?" Share of a current situation where you're experiencing compassion or learning to have compassion as you see the person(s) as Jesus did - harassed and helpless.
- How does the metaphor of "sheep without a shepherd" resonate with you? What parts of that metaphor do you feel most acutely - the protection, guidance/correction, anointing with oil, fending off wild animals, or the genuine care of the shepherd?
- What might you need to do to experience the same compassion for others that Jesus had? How is God calling you to be like the Great Shepherd - Jesus?



QUESTIONS FROM WEEKDAY READING (pgs 262-280)

WEEKLY QUESTIONS:

1. *What's something you noticed for the first time?*
2. *What questions did you have?*
3. *Was there anything that bothered you?*
4. *What did you learn about loving God?*
5. *What did you learn about loving others?*

Judge Not and Good Fruit | (p. 262)

- “Judge not lest ye be judged” is one of the most frequently quoted Scripture verses. Why do you think that is?
- Jesus tells us to take care of the plank in our eye, and then to see and remove the speck in our brother or sister's eye. Does this mean that we should judge, but simply after humbly admitting and taking care of our own sin?
- Down at the bottom of page 262, Jesus talks about false prophets, calling them ferocious wolves. In that section, he says twice, “by their fruit you will recognize them.” This seems to indicate a level of judgment and discernment that we are supposed to exhibit. So, when is judgment good and necessary, and when is it harmful?

Weeds and Wheat | (p. 273-274)

- Read Matthew 13:24-43 as a group.
- What seems to be the primary message in these parables that Jesus is telling?
- Recently, the Church (universal, not Impact specifically) has gone through significant division over the topics of Heaven, Hell, and judgment. How does this parable predict and prophecy about the end judgment, Heaven, and Hell?
- In the parable of the weeds, Jesus states that the harvester desires to wait to pull up the weeds until the harvest, because if they are pulled up, they may ruin and destroy the plant. If you are into gardening/farming, have you experienced a situation where you had to allow the weeds to grow so as to not damage the plant? How is this like our lives?
- How does the knowledge of God's judgment in the end give you hope? What parts bother you? Does such judgment negate God's love, or elevate it?