

# SEEING THE NEED

## Part One

**(Matthew 9:35-38)** “And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly *is* plenteous, but the labourers *are* few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.”

There are needs all around us in people, churches, communities, our country and the world. Sometimes figuring out what and how the Lord would lead us to help with so many needs is overwhelming, if it wasn't for the help of the Holy Spirit. Many times we get tunnel vision with just certain needs and don't see the many other needs that are out there that may be just as important. I know that we can't meet every need, but there may be an opportunity for the Lord to help us see the need in other people and ministries as well.

There is certainly a great need for the entire world to hear the gospel and have the opportunity to receive Christ as their savior. Then there is also a great need to help believers to grow and mature in their life in Jesus Christ. There are those who have need of healing of both physically and spiritual hurts and pains that they are going through individually and collectively as a church. It doesn't take long to look around and see the need of others if we are looking as Jesus did at the people that were in such great need of His help and healing.

Many churches and pastors may just need a fresh view from the Lord to see as He sees the world and their own place of ministry. We tend to get into ruts and habits that sometimes hinder our vision of the real needs of others outside of our close nit groups and clicks. There may be a need of getting out of the box and seeing the needs of others with a new perspective from the Lord. Let us not get caught up with just our little group, not seeing beyond our own church and ministries or just a certain tribe we run with of IBF's. May we look at the needs of others, so that the Lord could use us to help meet these needs of others outside of our comfort zone.

Sometimes the need for people, churches and ministries, changes, but we fail to see the present need because of poor vision or things get out of sight. The first place to see the need sometimes is with us and our churches and that will take humility. Hopefully we can seek and ask the Lord to help us see our own needs as well as the needs of others in the next few weeks with renewed vision. Have a blessed week in the Lord!

Bro. Mickey  
SCM

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## Part Two

**(Matthew 9:35)** “And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

Our Lord Jesus was actively going about where the people were and ministering to them in their needs. The Lord was and is always balanced in meeting the needs of those that He would come into contact with, wherever He went. He came not to be ministered unto but to minister to those in need of His help and salvation. **(Mark 10:45)** “For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

It's not our inactivity in some churches that causes us not to see the needs of others, but taking the time, to notice and look at the needs of others. Then there are some that are inactive and don't even get out into the highways and hedges. We need to both be active in going and conscious of the needs of others that are right in front of our faces as we go into the world around us. You don't have to go far to see the needs of others if we are looking through the eyes of Jesus. Our Lord took the initiative in not just going about all the towns, but also looking about and seeing the needs of those He came into contact with along the way.

### **What are some ways we can see the need as Jesus did?**

- **Be active in going** – Jesus didn't just set around waiting for the people to come to Him. Some churches think that people should just automatically drive up to their church doors and get saved or join their membership. **(John 20:21)** “Then said Jesus to them again, Peace *be* unto you: as *my* Father hath sent me, even so send I you.”
- **Be able to share the gospel** – every believer should know the very basics of how to share Jesus with someone that's lost. (Acts 1:8) If one has been a believer for some time they should be taught how to give a gospel presentation to the unsaved. We need to keep this training before the members constantly.
- **Be aware of people's physical needs** – many times we are so involved only with the spiritual needs of people we don't even notice the need physically. Many people will seek the Lord through their physical needs which can lead to their spiritual need being fulfilled in Christ. Sometimes the love of Christ is shown through meeting a physical need before they can see Christ in meeting their spiritual need. The Lord is about the whole person and meeting their needs.

The Lord Jesus was always seeing the needs of others as He traveled toward Calvary and the cross. As the great Physician He came to give life and that more abundantly to all that would receive Him as Savior therefore meeting the inner most needs of those that trust in Him. God bless and have a great week in the Lord, and let's keep our eyes open to the needs of others.

Bro. Mickey

SCM

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## Part Three

**(Matthew 9:36b)** “But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.”

Seeing the needs of people encompasses many things which can give us a burden for helping in numerous areas. It would be great if we could help in all the different needs that we saw, but that is not what God has called us to do. When Jesus came He saw the many needs of the people and He was moved with compassion, but then He also saw them as a group of people with special needs as a whole ( “the multitudes”). Though they be few or many they all have needs and the Lord is giving us an example of seeing the need all around us in lives that of those He loves (John 3:16).

Our vision for the lost and those with many other needs will be opened more as we draw closer to Christ and His vision. Sometimes pastors, churches and their members will get so caught up in other things, that they just don't see the needs as they once did. This is due in part for many because they got so busy doing things for the Lord that they forgot to know Him first and foremost. Loving and knowing the Lord in a close and intimate way will help get our vision corrected. Then we can see clearly as He does, the needs of others and to have a great desire to be of some type of help to them.

### **What are some ways we can see the need as Jesus did?**

- **Confess our poor vision** – we have to be reminded that we all have the tendency to get off focus with our seeing the needs of others. Sometimes all we see is the budget, methods and our programs and if they are doing well. It's not about our programs and methods but people that need the Lord and others with special needs that God wants to use us to meet.
- **Consider more compassion** – our Lord had compassion before He saw the multitudes, but as He looked upon them “He was moved with compassion on them”. We may have some compassion, but maybe the Lord wants us to be “moved” with more compassion for those with needs.
- **Clear our eyes to see their needs** – Jesus saw them with the heart of a shepherd. A true shepherd will see people differently than those who are not called to watch over the sheep. Sometimes the shepherd may get distracted, but not for long because he cares too much for the sheep. Any shepherd that doesn't see the needs of their sheep needs to go wash his eyes out with tears of sorrow of letting other things get into his eyes.
- **Concerning and discerning the needs** – “they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.” Each group of people has their own set of needs as well as the basic needs of all of them – (salvation, growth, friend, love, discipleship). Our Lord started where they were in the very basic needs of caring for their faintness, scattering and having a need of a shepherd. Let's take people where they are and help them to go where they need to go in the Lord.

Please Lord help us to make a difference in the needs of others around us. God bless!

Bro. Mickey

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## Part Four

**(Matthew 9:37-38)** “Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly *is* plenteous, but the labourers *are* few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.”

I believe that our Lord is always speaking and trying to communicate with His children but we sometimes are not listening as we should. We are so conditioned to all the voices all around us that we are distracted from hearing Him when He speaks. There is a good and godly balance that we need to seek after in this age of high technology. The Lord is still speaking but many can't hear because of all the noise from all our gadgets. As believers we should have our hearts tuned into the “still small voice” of the Holy Spirit as He speaks to us through the Word of God and to our spirit.

Many people are addicted to their devices and don't even know it until it stops working or the battery fails or they can't find the charger. Even pastors and staff along with some church members are so obsessed with their cell phones that they can't carry on a good conversation with others without being distracted by their phones. No wonder so many have a hard time hearing from the Lord in their prayer time and through Bible study, if they have it. As our Lord saw the need of those around Him He said, “The harvest truly *is* plenteous, but the labourers *are* few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.” Are we “His disciples” today listening to what He said and seeing the need?

### What are some ways we can see the need as Jesus did?

- **Stay Attentive to His voice** – seeing the need involves hearing from the Lord and His heart for others. We not only have the mind of Christ but also the ability to hear from Him if we are filled and led by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit, the Word and our Lord all speak the same thing, truth with mercy. Are we taking time to listen to His voice?
- **Stay Aware of the harvest** – because of all the other voices that are crying for our attention there is a danger of getting distracted from the harvest. If we keep a sharp ear listening to the Lord we will stay aware of the needs of others. The Lord's heart is always seeing the needs of the lost and those whose hearts are heavy.
- **Stay Active in prayer** – we all could be more active in praying if our hearts and lives were seeing the needs of others. Our praying is not only for the sick to be healed, the lost to be saved but for labourers to be sent into the harvest. Maybe our praying should precede our asking for workers. By the way it's the Lord that will send or should send the labourers “workers” into the harvest. Don't try to persuade but pray for workers – God still answers the prayers of faith in the will of God.

When I drove a big truck the CB talk was, “got your ears on?” This was the way to ask can you hear me. Let him that hath ears to hear let them hear – are we listening and seeing the needs? May the Lord help us all to be sensitive to His voice and seeing the needs of those around us. God bless and have a great week with the Lord with a fresh heart of hearing Him speak.

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