



Pastor Scott Archer 04.10.2016*
Central Congregational Church
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
www.ccclamesa.com

Praying Inside Out Matthew 9:35-38

Series: (Re)Discovering the Power of Persistent Prayer

Central Passage

Matthew 9:35–38 (ESV) — **35** And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. **36** When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for 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 laborers are few; 38 therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."**

Central Thought: Christ-centered prayer moves us from a pre-occupation with our own needs and desires, to a compassionate, active concern for others physical and spiritual well-being.

Learning From Jesus

- ❖ Jesus always responded to people's immediate, physical needs while addressing their deeper, spiritual need.

Mark 2:5 (ESV) — **5** And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

Mark 2:9–12 (ESV) — **9** Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'? **10** But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic— **11 "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home ..."**

- ❖ Jesus saw the crowd, and had compassion on them.

Matthew 14:13–14 (ESV) — **13** Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. **14 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.**

- ❖ Jesus commands us to see, pray and go!

Matthew 10:1 & 5-8 (ESV) — **1** And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction... **5** These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, **6** but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. **7** And proclaim as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' **8** Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay.

Homework

- ❖ Continue reading "Red Moon Rising"
- ❖ Read the passages above in their context in a Bible.
- ❖ Ask God to give you the Christ-like compassion for the "crowds" around you.
- ❖ Pray for our church family to be more engaged in the "harvest" of the gospel in both word and deed.