

Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

Date 5/25/25 Bryce Taylor

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BIBLE PASSAGES - Mark 16:15-20, Mt. 9:35-38

Mark 16:15 And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. **16** Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. **17** And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; **18** they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

19 So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. **20** And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.

Matthew 9:35 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."

Other Passages: Prov. 14:4, Philemon, John 13:35, John 15:8-11

Connect:

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, and take time to fellowship.

Care:

Carry each other's burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Pray together.

Challenge:

1. When was the last time you did something hard for someone who could give you nothing in return? What motivated you to offer that service to that person/situation?
Take a moment to read Philemon as a group–
2. Think about a time you had an argument, did your desire to be right overcome your desire to maintain relationship? What does Paul say in Philemon about maintaining relationship in difficult situations?
3. Can you think of someone you have given up on changing? Who maybe has heard the Gospel but just is not interested, or someone who has hurt you? What does Paul say in his letter to Philemon that you can use to help you in that relationship?
4. How comfortable are you right now with describing yourself as a bit of a mess? How comfortable would you be, asking for help?
5. Read John 15:8-11 together, notice God says, *when you* bear fruit. Where is the fruit in your life? Where is the mess that is producing new life? Pray and ask God to show you individually and as a group, how to embrace some messiness to foster new fruit.

Clarify:

Does anyone need clarity on something? Are there any big God questions you are wrestling with?

Celebrate:

Celebrate life's successes and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God.

KEY TAKEAWAYS