

## **Title: An Essential Strategy for Soul Winning – A Praying Church**

**Text: Mt 9:36-38** *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.*

**Introduction:** God wants us to pray to Him in the area of soul winning endeavours, and for the advancement His Kingdom. If we must see souls saved, we must pray to the Lord of the harvest.

**The Bible says,**

*“...when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.”*

First the people are represented under the figure of sheep, scattered abroad, without a shepherd's care and direction. The people are without God in their lives!

Next Jesus 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.”*

The harvest is plentiful but abandoned in the fields – a ripe bountiful and abandoned harvest is ready to be lost, ready to die unless reapers are sent out to gather them in. The number of faithful labourers is comparatively small and few as opposed to the abundant harvest in the fields. Hence, we are compelled to pray therefore to the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

It is the church's duty to pray earnestly and incessantly to the Lord of the harvest to increase the number of faithful labourers; and to send more labourers into his harvest. The harvest truly is great and all men need to have the Gospel preached to them for their salvation so that they can be brought into the Church where they will be taught about Jesus Christ.

When Jesus 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. The way to preserve the harvest is to have more labourers and the way to having more labourers is to pray to the Owner of the harvest because it's not His will that His harvest should die in the fields.

That's why Jesus said pray for labourers. Prayer is the key to soul winning endeavours.

*Mt 16:19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.*

The harvest is indeed great, and many souls need to be gathered into the Kingdom of God through the Church. The harvest is bountiful but faithful labourers are very few; faithful labourers are the issue. Soul winning endeavours requires us to be faithful. *Pray you therefore the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth more labourers into his harvest.*

We are not told to pray for the harvest because God is the Lord of the harvest.

*1Co 3:6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.*

*7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.*

Prayer is the engine room of the Church. If we want to see souls saved and come to church we must pray! Through prayer, we get the supernatural results that we need in advancing God's Kingdom through soul winning endeavours.

There is tremendous power when the Church prays. God is calling us to prayer. The Church's mission is to change individual lives, families, communities, cities and nations through prayer.

*1Jo 5:14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:*

*15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.*

His Will is to see souls saved and that's why Jesus said in

*John 6:38 "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me."*

And in **John 4:34 &35**

*He said, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work*

*35 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.*

***Luke 10:2** “Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.”*

God is telling us to pray every day for faithful labourers.

**Prayer Points for today:**

- Lord in Jesus Mighty name please send forth faithful labourers into our Church harvest.
- Lord make me one of the faithful labourers sent into Your harvest
- Lord help me to be faithful, steadfast, unmoving, and unflinching in praying for faithful labourers
- Lord help the Church to be praying in one accord faithful labourers in Your vineyard
- Lord open our eyes to see the ripe harvest all around us so that we can go out into the fields and bring them in for preservation in Jesus Mighty name

**Now ask the Lord for grace in the essential attitude you need for success**

- Grace to receive faithful labourers into the harvest
- Grace to pray tirelessly for faithful labourers to join the harvest
- Grace to commit to Soul Winning endeavours
- Grace to be faithful in everything we do for the Lord’s Kingdom

**Prophetic Declaration:**

Lord I realise the wonderful opportunities of prayer – not only in my personal relationship with You Lord, but also in the supernatural results that follows in soul winning endeavours. I commit myself to make praying in favour of labourers, for the purpose of preserving the harvest, a priority in my life, and for the advancement of Your Kingdom. I pray according to **Luke 10:2** *“Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.”* I DECLARE THIS BY FAITH IN JESUS MIGHTY NAME!

**The Holy Communion:**

Pray for forgiveness of sins.

“I bless the bread and wine and whatever you have. I declare it holy as a symbol of the blood and flesh of Jesus Christ.

I pray that as you partake of this communion; you will receive the essential attitude for success in every area of your life. I pray that God will give you spiritual understanding to know what you ought to do in this Prophetic season of revival.”

Give Jesus thanks!