



Pray and Go

By Jeff Bedwell on December 5, 2022

READING: Matthew 9

Matthew 9 is a reminder of Christ's authority. He has authority over sin (vv. 1-8), over death and disease (vv. 18-31), and over the demonic (vv. 32-34). In the midst of these healings, Christ teaches with authority and calls Matthew to follow Him. This call to follow Christ will reorient Matthew's purpose in life and his lifestyle from that day forward.

As a part of our calling to follow Christ, we are called to pray (vv. 35-38). Our prayers are to include mission focused prayers – for God to send out laborers into His harvest field. Like Matthew and the other disciples, we are part of the answer to this prayer. When we consistently pray in this way, God does something in us. We begin to see people as Christ saw people (vs. 36), we begin to feel what Christ felt toward people (vs. 36), and we begin to see that God is already at work in the lives of people around us (vs. 37).

Praying in this way also helps us to begin to move out to do what Christ did. We not only celebrate the good news of the gospel and the impact it has made on our lives, but we begin to joyfully share the gospel, which is “good news of great joy that will be for all the people” (see Luke 2:12).

Who do you live near, work with, and socialize or interact with that needs someone to pray for them and share the good news of the gospel? How will you pray for the nations and those who are taking the gospel to the nations right now? Will you pray that God will continue to send forth laborers from our church family, across the street and around the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ? Will you pray “Lord, here I am, send me wherever you want to use me to join You in Your kingdom's work?”

PRAYER: Lord, give us a supernatural awareness of the condition of the lost. Give us a sacrificial obedience to the commission of Christ.

TOMORROW'S READING: Matthew 10

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