

ReFocus Guide: Ready to Make a Difference

Focus:

Jesus looked upon the crowds with compassion and invited His followers to pray for workers to be sent into God's harvest. When we follow Jesus, we are not only call to pray but to become part of the answer.

Day 1: A Heart of Compassion

Scripture: Matthew 9:35-36

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were troubled and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. — Matthew 9:36 (CEB)

Reflection: Jesus didn't see a crowd. He saw people. He saw their pain, their confusion, and their deep spiritual hunger. True discipleship starts here: with eyes open to the needs around us and hearts moved to respond. Before we can serve, we must first see. Before we speak, we must first care.

Questions:

Where do you see "sheep without a shepherd" in your community or daily life? How is God stirring compassion in you for someone in need?

Prayer:

God of compassion, give me eyes to see beyond the surface and into the hearts of those around me. Soften my heart to be moved by their needs. Amen.

Day 2: Send Me

Scripture: Isaiah 6:8 (CEB)

Then I heard the Lord's voice saying, "Whom should I send, and who will go for us?" I said, "I'm here; send me."

Reflection: Isaiah doesn't respond out of strength; he responds out of surrender. He doesn't wait to be perfect or fully prepared. He simply says, "Here I am." This is what God looks for: availability, not perfection. When we say yes to God's mission, we join the story of redemption.

Questions:

What holds you back from saying "send me"? Where might God be asking for your "yes" this week?

Prayer:

Here I am, Lord. I don't have all the answers, but I trust You. Use me where You will. Amen.

Day 3: Clothed in Love

Scripture: Colossians 3:12—14 (CEB)

As God's chosen ones... clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience... and over all these things, put on love.

Reflection: Following Jesus means putting on the character of Christ each day, like clothing. Ensuring we consciously act in a manner that best represents Christ. Love ultimately holds all the virtues together. Without love, even our best actions fall short.

Questions:

Which of these virtues feels most natural to you? Which of these virtues is the hardest? What would it look like to "put on love" in your home, workplace, and community?

Prayer:

God, dress me in Your character today. Let compassion and love shape every word and action. Amen.

Day 4: Christ's Ambassador

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:20 (CEB)

So we are ambassadors who represent Christ. God is negotiating with you through us.

Reflection: We don't just follow Jesus privately. We also represent Him publicly. Every conversation, every decision, every act of compassion is an opportunity to reflect Christ to a hurting world. Ambassadors don't speak for themselves; they speak for the one who sent them.

Questions:

What message does your life send to others about God? How can you be a better ambassador for Christ today?

Prayer:

Jesus, help me represent You well. Let my life reflect Your grace, truth, and compassion. Amen.

Day 5: Workers in the Harvest

Scripture: Matthew 9:37-38 (CEB)

The size of the harvest is bigger than you can imagine, but there are few workers. Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest.

Reflection: The harvest is not the problem. There are many people ready and willing to respond to God's love and grace. The issue is willingness of Jesus' followers. Will we see the harvest and respond with availability? Will we pray not only for others to go, but for courage to step into the work ourselves?

Questions:

Where do you see people who are receptive to having their spiritual hunger fill around you? How might God be calling you to take part in the harvest today?

Prayer:

Lord of the harvest, here I am. Show me where You are calling me to serve. Make me part of Your answer. Amen.

Closing Prayer of the Week

Jesus, You saw the crowds and were moved with compassion. You called for workers—not the most talented or the best trained, but those willing to say yes. Let that be me. Open my eyes to the harvest, my heart to the hurting, and my life to Your mission. Where You send, I will go. Shape me into a disciple who makes a difference. Amen