MESSAGE REFLECTION *(Read or Summarize)*

**Matthew 9.37-38 (NIV)**

Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

The harvest field is still as ripe today as it was 2,000 years ago. Jesus saw opportunity where we might have seen only the hard ground that was unfit for planting. We have a tendency to focus on how difficult the mission field is. What we might see is the atheism, the clash of cultures, disagreement of politics, bitterness and opposition to religion and to the church. Moreover, in our age of political correctness, in our efforts to respect each other and keep the peace, we may inadvertently be withholding the greatest gift of all... the kingdom of God (read **Luke 4.18-19**). The enemy of our soul tells us that the harvest is not ripe, yet crowds of people followed Jesus wherever he went. In some of the most unexpected places today (such as the Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Joe Cocker’s ranch in Colorado, and so on), people want to hear about Jesus.

**Question:** If you were to look out at your “field”, what do you see? Is the ground hard or is it harvest time? Explain. What difficulties to you see? How can you overcome them? Are you trusting in your abilities, or God’s truth? Discuss.

**Philippians 2.9-11 (NIV)**

Therefore God exalted him, to the highest place, and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

If you want to see God move, say yes right where you are. We are busy and overwhelmed, and we manage life by setting boundaries. Sometimes the boundaries keep us from doing what God nudges us to do. His kingdom breaks in when we retrain our thinking to be more like “what if it is God” rather than “what if it’s not God”. Perhaps our thoughts should linger on what is possible with God versus what is not possible with us (read **Matthew 19:26**). When we say yes to Jesus, it sets the stage for the miraculous to happen. There is power in the name of Jesus (read **Philippians 3:10**). When we lift up His name, He draws people to Himself (read **Romans 1:16**). Christianity is about Jesus; Jesus is the Gospel: His kingdom, His grace, His mercy, His love and forgiveness, His life that is available to all that ask Him.

**Question:** Think about the character of Jesus: what He said and what He did. If you had to share three of your favorite things about Jesus to someone who did not know Him, what would they
be? Why are they your favorite? Have these things transformed your life? How would you share this transformation with others?

**NEXT STEPS:**

**ACCOUNTABILITY:** Identify a “what if it is God” opportunity, have you been hearing one lately? How can you respond? What can the group do to support you? **30-DAY CHALLENGE.** What would happen in your life if for just 30 days you took a run at living a God-filled life? What if everyday, for 30 days, you told yourself, “My job today is to meet with God.” Take the challenge. As a group, commit to God and tell God you are His. Ask Him to take you and fill you with His wisdom, His heart, and His power. Ask Him to take your life and Mold it. Read Isaiah 64.8. Commit to being clay in the potters hands. Walk through your day and assume no one is in your path by accident. Live as God’s identity (Read 2 Corinthians 5.20) and live out His purpose (read Ephesians 2.10). Can you do this for 30 days? What difference can it make? What would your life look like living in the overflow of God’s presence? Kingdom focus - Kingdom purpose.

**DEVOTIONAL:** As a small group, access the Weekly Devotional by going to www.chapel.org, go to the GROW link at the top of the page and select WEEKLY DEVOTIONALS from the dropdown and then select GLOBAL OUTREACH 2015.

**PROVIDE US WITH FEEDBACK**

We are excited about the potential these studies have to help each of us process the weekend message at a deeper level, and to see God change our lives in significant ways. In order to make these guides as helpful as possible, we would love to hear which elements are most helpful, which are least helpful, as well as any other comments, questions or suggestions. Feel free to send your feedback directly to Jon Holmberg at jholmberg@chapel.org.