



# WEEKLY CELL GUIDE

07 MAR 2021 | OUR MISSION FIELDS | MATTHEW 9:35-38

Series : Sent | Speaker : Ps Ben KC Lee



## WELCOME

[15 MINS]

You may want to look up the following websites for icebreakers suitable for your cell.

[Ice Breakers 1](#)

[Ice Breakers 2](#)



## WORSHIP

[15 MINS]

You may select songs like

1. Build My Life
2. Lord, I Offer My Life to You



## WORD

[45 MINS]

### SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. See people as how Jesus sees them and develop a compassion that motivates action.
2. Ask God to send more workers into His harvest field.

### SERMON SUMMARY

Jesus' love is real, and it moves Him to act and call others to act. Jesus having seen the need, teaches us how to serve the needy with what is needed most. We need to develop a compassion that motivates us to action and to pray for God to send more workers into His harvest field.

## SERMON RECAP

<sup>35</sup> Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. <sup>38</sup> Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

- **Matthew 9:35-38 (NIV)**

This was the point when Jesus made the switch from teaching and healing, to commissioning His disciples to do what he was doing. He had taught with authority but He was about to send them out to teach with authority. This is a transition passage.

Jesus had a widespread ministry geographically (through all the towns and villages). Later, Jesus would tell His disciples to go into all the world, to reach out to everyone who had never heard about Jesus. Jesus' ministry was also wide in its scope – He ministered to people's spiritual and physical needs. What happened in this pivotal passage is critical for us who are called to the same ministry that Jesus had.

1. Jesus' compassion for the people to whom He ministered (v36)
  - Jesus' love was real, and it moved Him into action.
  - He saw a people hungry and thirsty; everyone trying to fill their appetites with worldly achievements and pursuits.
  - Jesus saw them as sheep without a shepherd, without hope, held captive by sin ([Ezekiel 34:6](#)). Jesus was there to give them salvation.
  - Reflection: When we get too caught up in ourselves and our ambitions/pursuits, we lose sight of the people around us and we feel less for them. We start losing our compassion. We need to see people the way Jesus sees them and be moved to act.
2. Jesus' concern for people ready for the gospel but few workers (v37)
  - Jesus sees things as they really are ([John 4:35](#)). He tells His disciples that the harvest is ready, but the workers are few.
  - Jesus is imparting spiritual optimism to His disciples so that they will go into the fields to reap the harvest.
  - Reflection: People who do not know God experience Him through us, believers.
  - So, what are our mission fields to harvest from? (FRANC)
    - Friends
    - Relatives
    - Associates
    - Neighbours
    - Community
3. Jesus' call to pray for more workers for the harvest (v38)
  - Jesus calls us to pray. Jesus demonstrates a prayerful reliance on God (Luke 6:12-13).
  - Reflection: Before we can have love and compassion for others, we need a connection with God.
  - Pray that the Lord will raise harvesters in our church.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. ***"When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."*** - Matthew 9:36

**How do we view people who have needs? Do we have a compassion for them that motivates us to action? If not, how do we develop a compassion like that? [10 Mins]**

### Leader's Notes

Do we see people through Jesus' eyes? How can we become more sensitive to the needs of others? It all begins with love. Jesus' love is real, and it moves Him to act. Do we have Jesus' love for people? When we have Jesus' love, we have His compassion for others, and it moves us to action. We need to draw close to Christ and feel

His heartbeat and love for others, especially for “sheep without a shepherd.” Remember how God has loved you, the compassion He has shown you, and the grace He has given you.

Resource: [Compassion in the Life of Jesus | Our Daily Bread Ministries](#) (Leaders can elaborate on the specific examples of Jesus’ compassion during His earthly ministry to inspire us to develop compassion for people.)

#### Transition

It is not enough to have compassion for others (feelings) and take no action. We need a love like Jesus’ - one that is so real, that it compels us to do something. We should desire to develop a love and compassion like that.

2. **Often, it seems that people who aren’t believers “have it all together.” They are successful, affluent, self-sufficient, and look like they have their lives figured out. How can we make an opening for the Gospel for people who don’t sense their need for it? [10 Mins]**

#### Leader’s Notes

Although some people may appear to be happy and well put-together, they may have felt a sense of emptiness, hopelessness, or meaninglessness in all that they do. Although it seems that their lives are smooth sailing, it is not always the case. Life is unpredictable and always throws us curve balls. There will be times in the valley. That may be when people are more responsive to spiritual things: they just moved into town, was diagnosed with a major health issue, lost a loved one, faced financial bankruptcy, or recently divorced.

Perhaps, the first step would be to build a genuine relationship with them, so that when the storms of life hit them you are there to journey with them and to help them through prayers. From your genuine love and concern, they will be more opened to hear the Gospel. Leaders can encourage members to share their experiences in reaching out to pre-believers to encourage others to start to do likewise and not to give up trying.

#### Transition

No matter how successful and happy people look, we do not truly know what they are going through. They may be suffering internally but have no one to turn to for help. Be that person that they seek advice from. Help them with godly wisdom and pray with them. It may just be the opening you need to share the Gospel with them.

3. **Ps. Ben provided us with five mission fields that we can go into (FRANC):**

- **Friends**
- **Relatives**
- **Associates**
- **Neighbours**
- **Community**

**Choose one mission field that you or your cell can harvest from. Think of practical ways how you or your cell can do God’s work. [15 Mins]**

#### Leader’s Notes

*“Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.” - John 4:35 (NIV)*

The fields are ready for harvest, but the workers are few. Jesus calls His disciples to go into the field to harvest. Therefore, as believers, it is our calling to go into the mission field to harvest. FRANC are the mission fields that we can go into – they are people that we know, people who are within our social circle and people that we can reach out to.

The key lesson here for the believer is that we should not remain passive. When we are actively impacting these mission fields, we position ourselves to reap the harvest that God desires.

At the end of this question, your cell can agree together on some common efforts that you would like to undertake together to be actively impacting your mission fields. If not, you can also encourage your cell

members to be actively involved in a mission field (FRANC) so that everyone is actively sowing seeds for a harvest.

Read this resource by Ps Ben as well: [RIVERLIFE WEEKLY #44: OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS](#)

### Closing

Jesus told His disciples that the fields were ready for harvest. Jesus is addressing us as well. Why wait to harvest when we can do it now? We can never reap a harvest if we remain passive in our involvement. Let's be encouraged to be actively involved in reaching out to our mission fields.

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Consider dividing the group into micro-groups for a deeper time of sharing as well as praying for the following items:

1. Our Mission Fields:
    - We will develop God's love and compassion for others, especially those who are far from God.
    - There will be more workers for the mission fields that are ready for harvest.
  2. Local COVID-19 situation:
    - For God's protection on everyone so that the COVID-19 community cases will not increase.
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1. **Bible Reading Plan.** You can access our 2-Year Bible Reading Plan 2021-2022 by visiting <https://rlc.sg/brp2021>.
2. **Outreach & Missions.** Our sermons and announcements on 7, 14 & 21 Mar will be focused on Outreach & Missions. To find out more about our Outreach & Missions efforts, visit <rlc.sg/sent>.
3. **RLCares 2020 Thanksgiving.** 72 teams, 51 cells and 314 volunteers served in 2020. • 6 grocery distributions by RiverLifers • Many RiverLifers found opportunities to pray with or share their testimony and the gospel with residents • 3 salvations.
4. **Missions Updates.** \$68,752 contributed to Relief Efforts: 3636 families, 132 pastors and 52 churches were reached.
5. **Alpha Online.** You can register for it by 5 April, visit <rlc.sg/ao-reg>



"HONOUR GOD WITH EVERYTHING YOU OWN;  
GIVE HIM THE FIRST AND THE BEST."  
PROVERBS 3:9 (MSG)

# Give Digitally

Here are two cashless ways to give your tithes and offering.

## 1. PayNow

Log in to your bank's existing mobile banking app.  
Scan this QR code on the right.

**SCAN ME**



## 2. Interbank Transfer

RiverLife Church Bank Account:  
DBS Autosave 029-902431-0  
Bank Code: 7171  
Branch Code: 029



## RIVERLIFE WEEKLY #44: OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS

Posted on February 23, 2021



When Jesus was twelve, He went with His family to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of the Passover. After the feast ended, Jesus remained behind and his parents were not aware. When they found Him three days later, Jesus said to them, “Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father’s business?” (*Luke 2:49*)

What does it mean to be about our Father’s business? In following Jesus, we not only become part of His family, but we are called to join His family enterprise: “Go and make disciples of all nations ... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” (*Matthew 28:19-20*) His enterprise is global – and here is our family game plan.

### WHAT DOES A DISCIPLE DO?

**Go.** Whether we are going across the workstation to interact with our co-workers or going across the seas to the nations, disciples are called to make disciples as we go about our everyday lives. (v.19)

**Baptise.** As new believers begin to establish their faith in Jesus, we encourage them to make an outward and spiritual declaration through water baptism. (v.19)

**Teach.** The command to teach may seem overwhelming but it means to learn and obey the teachings of Jesus and allowing the Holy Spirit to be our ultimate teacher. We don’t have to be fully mature to disciple others, but we can only effectively disciple others if we are growing in our faith. (v.20)

### WHO DO I MAKE DISCIPLES OF?

**Neighbours.** We have people within our relational spaces and living in proximity of our homes that Jesus calls us to share the Gospel with. (*Mark 12:28-31*)

**New Believers.** Cell communities actively help new believers grow in their relationships with Jesus and others. (*Ephesians 4:14-16*)

**Family.** There is no greater ministry or responsibility than to teach and model the way of Jesus to our children. (*Deuteronomy 6:4-9*)

**Generations.** Younger generations feel welcome to share dreams and ideas with older ones. The young and zealous will benefit from the wisdom and insight of those who have travelled further along life’s journey. (*Titus 2:1-8*)

**Nations.** Whether overseas or within our own communities, Jesus’ call is to make disciples of all people groups and He will be with us. (*Matthew 28:18-20*)

## WHERE DO I START?

**Be A Disciple.** Our first step in disciple making is to be a disciple. This means growing in intimacy with Jesus and being a life-long apprentice of Him and His Word.

**Be Engaged.** Our *Disciple Making Road Map* ([rlc.sg/wb2020](http://rlc.sg/wb2020)) is designed to identify where you are on this journey and your next step. Also pray about joining the core team of your cell group.

**Get Disciplined.** Seek out a Paul. God has someone ready to connect one-on-one with you to address specific questions and provide next steps. Ask your spiritual leader if he or she would journey with you.

**Make Disciples.** Start engaging our family enterprise by discipling others, either one-on-one or one-on-a- few! Approach a newer or younger believer whom you can disciple.

Jesus calls us to make disciples of all nations. The going, baptising, and teaching His commandments explain how to fulfil our calling.



*Pastor Ben KC Lee*