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1/ The work of His harvest (Matt 9)

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

1-8/ Jesus heals a paralytic

9-17/ Jesus calls Matthew, a tax collector can you believe!

18-31/ A woman is healed, and a girl is raised to life, and the sight of two blind men restored

32-34/ Jesus frees and heals a man unable to speak

Favour, kindness, mercy, love, compassion;  
without regard to the merit of, or what the person, deserves.

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1/ The work of His harvest

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

v35 Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages [in Galilee], teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news (gospel) of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness [His words and His works reflecting His Messiahship].

Favour, kindness, mercy, love, compassion

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1/ The work of His harvest

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

v36-38 When He saw the crowds, He was moved with compassion and pity for them, because they were dispirited and distressed, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is [indeed] plentiful, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

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1/ The work of His harvest / **kingdom** Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

The work of His harvest is about **believing the harvest, and proclaiming His kingdom**. Believing galvanises through prayer, proclaiming the kingdom exercises our words and works (Jesus!)

v35 Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages [in Galilee], teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news (gospel) of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness [His words and His works reflecting His Messiahship].

Kingdom?

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1/ The work of His harvest / **kingdom** Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

The Kingdom...gospel theme(126), Matt(55)

The Gospels speak of mystery where the Kingdom is present AND still to come (Luke17, John18, Mark1)

The Kingdom creates a realm and a people...yes, but the Kingdom of God is not equal to its realm/people, the Kingdom is profoundly the 'reign of God'.

The work of His harvest is to **seek the reign of God FIRST** in all things (see Matt 6:33), v3 *pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message...to proclaim the mystery of Christ...* **the practice of Colossians 4**

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2/ Conversations full of grace Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

The Work of Harvest/Kingdom includes proclaiming the message of the Kingdom (Colossians 4:2-6)

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful...Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always **full of grace**, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. (Col 4:2,5-6)

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## 2/ Conversations full of grace

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

Conversation full of grace = proclamation

GRACE - favour or kindness shown without regard to the merit of, and in spite of what the person deserves. Almost always is associated with mercy, love, compassion, and patience (Nelson's). **The Gospel can only be received as a gift of the GRACE of Jesus (Rom4:4) by faith in our undeserved receiving of His mercy and favour (Rom4:16).**

Matthew 9 reality of conversations full of GRACE

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## 2/ Conversations full of grace

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

Conversation full of grace = proclamation

Conversations that are spiritually authoritative in proclaiming God's message, acts, and truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is confident, faith-filled conversation that inspires faith and transforms lives, because of grace!

Conversations **full of Grace** is the **God factor**, practiced in and through us, towards another...

Matt 9 conversations are **full of Grace, and REAL.**

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## 2/ Conversations full of grace

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

Conversation of full of grace are **honest**

v3-4/ some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, "This fellow is blaspheming!" Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, "Why do you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts?"

Conversations of grace - proclaiming the good news (gospel) of the **kingdom**, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness **[His words and His works reflecting His Messiahship].**

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## 2/ Conversations full of grace

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

### Conversation full of grace are **thoughtful**

v11-12/ When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Conversations of grace - proclaiming the good news (gospel) of the **kingdom**, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness **[His words and His works reflecting His Messiahship]**.

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## 2/ Conversations full of grace

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

### Conversation full of grace are **confident**

v14-15/ Then John’s disciples came and asked him, “How is it that we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?” Jesus answered, “How can the guests of the bridegroom mourn while he is with them? The time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; then they will fast.

Conversations of grace - proclaiming the good news (gospel) of the **kingdom**, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness **[His words and His works reflecting His Messiahship]**.

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## 2/ Conversations full of grace

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

### Conversation full of grace are **life giving**

v23-26/ When Jesus entered the synagogue leader’s house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, he said, “Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep.” But they laughed at him. After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up. News of this spread through all that region.

Conversations of grace - proclaiming the good news (gospel) of the **kingdom**, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness **[His words and His works reflecting His Messiahship]**.

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## 2/ Conversations full of grace

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

Conversations full of grace are **sharp**

v33-34/ And when the demon was driven out, the man who had been mute spoke. The crowd was amazed and said, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "It is by the prince of demons that he drives out demons."

Conversations of grace - proclaiming the good news (gospel) of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness [His words and His works reflecting His Messiahship].

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## 2/ Conversations full of grace

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

Conversations of grace are **compassionate**

v36-38/ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Conversations of grace - proclaiming the good news (gospel) of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness [His words and His works reflecting His Messiahship].

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## 3/ Restrictions of Conversation

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

What **restricts ourselves** from conversations

- Fear of aggressive pushback and loss of 'connection'
- Embarrassment of retorts and 'not winning'
- Time / availability (structural) to converse
- Inconvenience of the timing of those moments
- Ignorance of the harvest, not looking
- Our misconstrued piety and preferences

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#### 4/ Restrictions of Grace

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

What **restricts His Grace** in our conversations

- Unbelief, not living in His grace
- Hardhearted not seeing the harvest
- Disobedience by avoiding altogether
- Unknowingly drifted from seeking the Kingdom first
- First love factor for Jesus...missing
- Uncompassionate towards the harvest

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#### 4/ Restrictions of Grace

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

What **restricts His Grace** in our conversations

- Unbelief, not living in His grace
- Hardhearted not seeing the harvest
- Disobedience by avoiding altogether
- Unknowingly drifted from seeking the Kingdom first
- First love factor for Jesus...missing
- Uncompassionate towards the harvest

**What can we do? We can obey and pray earnestly!**

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#### 5/ Command to pray

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

**Devote yourselves to prayer**, being watchful and thankful...Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. **Let your conversation be always full of grace**, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. (Col 4:2,5-6)

“The harvest is [indeed] plentiful, but the workers are few. **So pray to the Lord of the harvest** to send out workers into His harvest.” (Matt 9:37-38)

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### 5/ Command to pray

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

The pattern of the world being selfishness and materialism (hedonism), living for this life and what we see, versus the eternal and spiritual reality:

- Set your **affections** on things above (Col 3:1)
- **Seek first** the kingdom of God (Mt 6:33)
- **Pray without ceasing** (1Thess 5:17)

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### 5/ Command to pray

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

Jesus gives us a command, that requires us **to obey and earnestly pray** to the Lord of the harvest to send workers into His harvest. In prayer, we contend with and contemplate Kingdom realities, being transformed to:

- See and expect a spiritual harvest that Jesus saw.
- Have the compassion of Christ for His harvest.
- Trust that the Lord of the harvest will hear the prayers of His people to bring in the spiritual harvest.

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### 5/ Command to pray

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

**So pray to the Lord** of the harvest to force out and thrust labourers into His harvest. (AMP)

**Therefore, plead with the Lord** of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest." (CEB)

**God owns the harvest. Ask him** to send more workers to help gather his harvest." (ERV)

**Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord** of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." (ESV)

"The harvest is great enough," he remarked to his disciples, "but the reapers are few. **So you must pray to the Lord** of the harvest to send men out to reap it." (PHILLIPS)

**So pray to the master** of the harvest to send more workers to harvest his fields!" (NTFE)

**So ask the Lord** who gives this harvest to send workers to harvest his crops." (GW)

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5/ Command to pray

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

Then Jesus made a circuit of all the towns and villages. He taught in their meeting places, reported kingdom news, and healed their diseased bodies, healed their bruised and hurt lives. **When he looked out over the crowds, his heart broke. So confused and aimless they were, like sheep with no shepherd. "What a huge harvest!"** he said to his disciples. "How few workers! On your knees and pray for harvest hands!"  
(Mt 9:35-38)(MSG)

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5/ Command to pray

Compassion  
Matt 9:36-38  
February Series

The harvest is [indeed] plentiful, but the workers are few  
Pray to the Lord of the harvest  
Devote yourselves to prayer  
Pray for the compassion that Jesus had  
Pray to see what Jesus saw

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