

Making Room “Vision”
Matthew 9:35-38
September 14, 2025

Matthew 14:14

14 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

As Jesus suffers with people he forms a ministry to them.

Matthew 9:36-38

36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; 38 therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

“Plentiful.”

John 4:35-36

35 Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, then comes the harvest’? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. 36 Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.

Amos 9:13

13 “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when the plowman shall overtake the reaper and the treader of grapes, him who sows the seed; the mountains shall drip sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it.

The age of waiting has passed.

1 church in two locations able to welcome more people.

10 churches planted or networked.

100 life Groups in 100 neighborhoods.

1000 new volunteers serving.

10,000 stories of life change.

How did we decide Phase 1 projects?

Being obedient to God’s will is the best life possible.

Life Group Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you through the Scripture during our Sunday gathering?
- How might recent news and disappointments signal that the Church’s mission and efforts are even more critical?

- When Jesus saw the crowds, he felt compassion? What other things besides compassion do we feel when you look at the crowds? Why do you think Matthew wants us to know that Jesus felt this way over all other things he could have expressed? What does this reveal about God?
- What is the spiritual insight for us as Jesus looks out and sees a plentiful and present harvest?
- Reflect for a moment and share a way in which you benefited from someone else's effort and hard work.
- Discuss the idea that life of sacrifice and service within the "harvest" is not just a blessing for those you reach but it is a better life for you as well.
- Does it surprise you that Jesus asks us to pray rather than just get busy? Why is being prayerful important to the Christian commission?
- Spend some time in prayer. Challenge yourself to be specific, who you are praying for and what does obedience looks like. Pray for this special season of growth and giving as Rivertree makes room for others.