

*Living in
my Father's
Shadow*



The Shadow

Defined: A dark area or shape produced by a body coming between rays of light and a surface



Two Things to Exist!

A solid object that either absorbs or reflects light

A light source

The result is an outlined image of the object opposite the light shining on the object

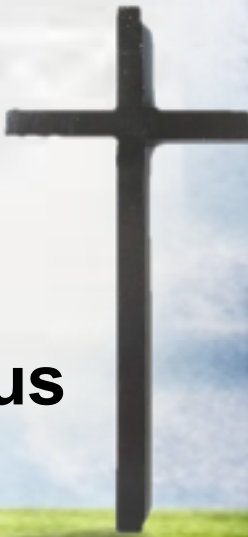


Living in the Shadow

It's the idea of positioning yourself behind the object so that you do not produce a shadow

In essence your shadow is absorbed into the objects shadow

This series has been to look at how we can position our life and our church's life so that it falls in line with the shadow cast by Jesus



The Ministry of Jesus Summed Up!

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. 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."



Matthew 9:35-38



The Ministry Shadow

**Doing What Jesus Did
(Going, Teaching, Preaching and Ministering)**

**Seeing what Jesus Saw
(Harassed and Helpless people in need of a shepherd)**

Feeling what Jesus felt (Compassion)

Saying what Jesus Said



Knowing God's Passion

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."



Matthew 9:38



The Issue

“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few”

The good: The Harvest is Plentiful

The bad: The workers are few

**That which could be harvested
and saved dies on the vine**

That which could be used for the master useless

**The work that was done to produce
the crop is wasted**



Because the harvest
also produces the seed for
the next crop, either there
is **less** harvest in the future
or working the field becomes
more **expensive**



Not a New Problem

Even back then there was a resource problem

Attendance: Not a problem because we are reaping the harvest

Budget Issues: Not a problem, its simple math, bringing in more people committed to following means their financial resources come with them

Service Issues: Gone more people means more servants

Contention in the Church: Stops because honestly busy people just don't have time



Do What? Ask (Pray)

**Defined: Request someone to do or
give something**

Matthew 6:8 Matthew 7:7-8 Matthew 21:22

1 John 5:14 John 14:13 John 16:24

Jesus is telling us to make a specific ask



Ask Who?
“The Lord of the Harvest”



Lord of Healing

Lord of Worship

Lord of Fellowship

Lord of Discipleship



The Harvest – It's About People

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. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor."

John 4:35-38



The Harvest – It's About Priority

**But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you as well.**



Did You Know?

Matthew 6:33

**87% of the parables Jesus told were about
the idea of the Harvest**

**That his "main" teaching to the apostles
were about going**

**That his two direct charges to the church after
his resurrection were about the harvest**



Ask for What?

To send out workers into his harvest field

**The request is not send us people
it is to send out workers**

Note the owner of the field --- His field

**Its a call for God's people to get busy
reaping a harvest from His field**



What are we really asking for?



What you are really saying is.... (Isaiah 6:8)
Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”
And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”



**You are not asking
for volunteers (How) ,
you are just asking for direction
(Compass) because
the moment you pray this,
you just volunteered to go!**



What are we really asking for?



The moment I see it (Harassed and Helpless)

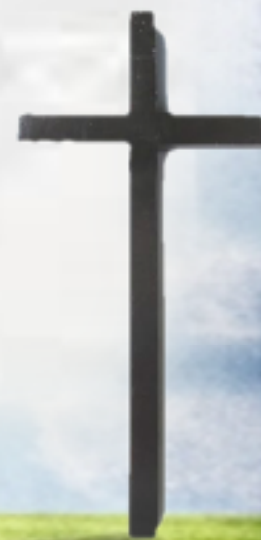
**The moment I allow my heart to break for it
(Compassion)**

The moment I ask send somebody





**God's answer will most likely be...
How About You?**



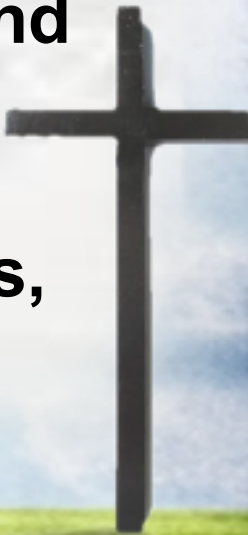
Two Ways to Destroy the Shadow

Take out the object creating it

Turn out the light (Matthew 5:14-16)

“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.





**Are we living in His
Shadow?**

