



RHEMA CHRISTIAN CENTER  
SERMON NOTES

## Praying For Our Community

### Matthew 9:35-38 (TLB)

*Jesus traveled around through all the cities and villages of that area, teaching in the Jewish synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And wherever he went he healed people of every sort of illness. <sup>36</sup> And what pity he felt for the crowds that came, because their problems were so great and they didn't know what to do or where to go for help. They were like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> "The harvest is so great, and the workers are so few," he told his disciples. <sup>38</sup> "So pray to the one in charge of the harvesting, and ask him to recruit more workers for his harvest fields."*

Compassion doesn't look away from other people's pain.  
Consider Luke 10:30-37

Compassion considers what it must feel like to walk in someone else's shoes.  
Hebrews 13:3 (NLT) says, "Remember those in prison, as if you were there yourself. Remember also those being mistreated, as if you felt their pain in your own bodies."

Compassion is only useful when it goes from a feeling to an action.

Jesus' call to action in this text was for the disciples to pray.

I.

We need to pray because God cares about the hurting people in our community.  
Exodus 3:7 (NIV) says, "The Lord said, 'I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering.'"

We need to pray because our church and our members are impacted by how things go in the community.  
Jeremiah 29:7 (NLT) says, "And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare."

We need to pray because some of the greatest moves of God in communities were birthed out of a prayer service.

II.



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Our prayers are to be filled with **faith** for God to do wonderful things in this community. Matthew 21:22 (NLT) says, “You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it.”

After praying and believing God for the community, we have to get to work **helping** the community.

James 2:14-17 (TLB) says, “Dear brothers, what’s the use of saying that you have faith and are Christians if you aren’t proving it by helping others? Will that kind of faith save anyone? <sup>15</sup> If you have a friend who is in need of food and clothing, <sup>16</sup> and you say to him, “Well, good-bye and God bless you; stay warm and eat hearty,” and then don’t give him clothes or food, what good does that do? <sup>17</sup> So you see, it isn’t enough just to have faith. You must also do good to prove that you have it. Faith that doesn’t show itself by good works is no faith at all—it is dead and useless.”

Rhema can do more with more **workers**.

Luke 10:1-2 (TLB) says, “The Lord now chose **seventy other disciples** and sent them on ahead in pairs to all the towns and villages he planned to visit later. <sup>2</sup> These were his instructions to them: “Plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out more laborers to help you, for the harvest is so plentiful and the workers so few.”

III.

It is going to take the **wisdom** of God to win the lost in this community.

Proverbs 11:30 (NKJV), *The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise.*”

Part of our strategy for winning the lost in this community is to find out the resident’s needs and meet them.

Rhema will need additional laborers who have the skill, passion, expertise and/or resources in the areas of the community’s needs.

Let’s pray that God will continue to use Rhema to do great and mighty things in this community.

*Saturday & Sunday, July 5 & 6, 2025*

*Pastor Tony Ransom*

*Rhema Christian Center*