



**A Reproducing Church**  
**“Hope Church 2025” Series**  
**Matthew 9:35-38**  
**November 29, 2020**  
**Pastor Mickey Klink**

**Introduction**

In this sermon we explain vision four of Hope Church 2025: A Reproducing Church – “Harvest.”

**The Text: Matthew 9:35-38**

*<sup>35</sup> And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for 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 laborers are few; <sup>38</sup> therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”*

1) Vision Four: A Reproducing Church – think “Harvest.”

*Our goal is to develop the church’s reproducing nature by strategically raising up disciples, ministry workers, church leaders, and even new churches for the work of gospel ministry.*

- *The Christian life is a life of service and ministry.*
- *The church is not only where ministry happens, but where training for ministry happens.*
- *To become a church like this, we must pray!*

2) What does “A Reproducing Church” look like?

- *It creates a culture in which every Christian is expected to be a contributor not a customer.*
- *It works at helping every Christian serve in ways that fit their age and stage.*
- *It develops strategies for developing ministry workers in every corner and level of the church.*

3) The Four Visions of Hope Church 2025: Heart, Head, Hands, and Harvest.

**Response**

Lord, help us be a church that makes disciples who make disciples.

## **Sunday Text Questions for Matthew 9:35-38 (“Hope Church 2025” Series)**

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- 1) Starter Question: If you were training someone to replace you at work, how would you prepare them to do what you do?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) What does the beginning of v. 35 reveal to us about the widespread and expansive ministry of Jesus, or even what his ministry days were like?
- 4) According to v. 35, Jesus’ primary teaching message was “the gospel of the Kingdom.” If Jesus makes the Kingdom of God his primary message, how should we make it a bigger deal in our lives, especially when the kingdoms of men make their own nation so significant?
- 5) What does the beginning of v. 36 teach us: “when [Jesus] saw the crowds, he had compassion on them?”
- 6) Based upon v. 36, in what ways are people even now “harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd?”
- 7) Based upon Jesus’ important statement in v. 37, in what ways can you see that “the harvest is plentiful” and why are “the laborers ... few?”
- 8) Why is prayer the command of Jesus and the most fitting response to the church’s need of laborers for ministry (v. 38)?
- 9) What can Hope Church do to forge a culture that helps us become a “reproducing church?”
- 10) What steps can you take to support and participate in the reproducing work at Hope Church?

**Further study this week:** Passages that exhort us to reproduce laborers for the harvest: Acts 14:19-23 (Mon); Titus 2 (Tuesday); 2 Timothy 2:1-2 (Wed); Romans 15:14 and Proverbs 27:17 (Thurs); Proverbs 22:6 (Fri).