

**Sunday September 28, 2025
Dr. James Saxon – FPC Rome
Sermon Outline**

Introduction:

- Lord of the harvest - God refers to himself this way – Matt 9:38

The Great Opportunity/Challenge:

- The harvest is **plentiful**/abundant – Matt 9:37
- There are multitudes of **distressed** (stressed out) and downtcast (burdened, bewildered) sheep – Matt 9:36

The Great Harvest:

- The fields are **white** for the harvest – John 4:35 – “...do not say in four months...”The

The Great Awareness:

- Harvest of **fruit** for eternal life – John 4:36 – heavenly harvest of souls
- Sowing and reaping **process** – John 4:37 – fruit-bearing process that takes investment over time as suggested in Mark 4:26-29 – sowing, first the blade, then the head, then the mature grain
- The **connection** between sowing and reaping. John 4:37
- Sowers and reapers make up a **team** – John 4:36 – teamwork and both rejoice together
- The workers are **few** – Matt 9:37 – diminishes both sowing and reaping – minimal harvest

Conclusion:

- Pray for the Lord of the harvest to **send out** harvest workers – Matt 9:38

Sermon Discussion Questions

1. It has been said that, “The gospel is the greatest offer of the greatest gift with the greatest benefit to the greatest number of people from the greatest person who ever lived.” What do you like about this depiction of the gospel?
2. It has been said that, “The world is a great people in great pain suffering in great helplessness in need of great compassion on a search for a great solution.” What do you like about this depiction of the world? What particular persons come to mind when you think of people in great pain?
3. It has been said that, “The church is in great conflict, awed by God’s great offer and burdened by the world’s great need but at a loss as to how to bring the two together.” To what degree do you identify with this description?
4. It has been said that, “The great resolution is learning to sow the seeds of the great offer into the hearts of those in great need through a wise and winsome approach in hopes of a great harvest.” To what degree are you open to learning to be a winsome ‘sower’ of the gospel.
5. Who in your network of people are you burdened by the Lord of the harvest to reach with the gospel?