

"God Cultivates Action" – Small Group Discussion Guide

1. Opening Icebreaker

- *If you had to take care of a farm animal for a month, which would you pick and why?*
- *What's a chore or responsibility you didn't like at first but eventually learned from?*

2. Read the Scripture Together – Matthew 9:35–38

3. Big Idea Summary

- Jesus looked at crowds of hurting people and felt deep compassion. He told His disciples the harvest—people ready to hear hope—was huge, but the workers were few. The problem wasn't people's openness; it was the lack of helpers stepping forward.
- Jesus' solution? Pray for workers—and often, that prayer leads Him to send *us*.
- He calls us to see people not as projects but as real humans who need hope and compassion. We're invited to live quietly (reflecting Jesus with our actions) and testify loudly (using our words when it's time).

4. Discussion Questions

Seeing People Like Jesus

- Jesus noticed people who were hurting. Where do you see hurting people at work, in your neighborhood, school, or online?
- Why do you think compassion is sometimes hard for us—even though Jesus modeled it so clearly?

The Harvest is Ready

- What do you think Jesus meant when He said the "harvest is great/plentiful"?
- Why do you think there are "few workers" today? Is it fear? Busyness? Not knowing what to say?

Being a Worker, not a Consumer

- In what ways and why do people sometimes "consume" church instead of participating in the mission?
- What would it look like for you to be a "worker" this week—right where you already are?

Quiet Living & Loud Testifying

- What is harder for you personally:
- Living quietly in a way that reflects Jesus?
- Speaking boldly about your faith when the moment comes? Why?

5. Taking Action

- What is one small, bold step you feel God might be nudging you toward? (Forgiving someone, inviting a friend, encouraging someone lonely, asking a real question, etc.)

Practical Action Steps

- Pray for Eyes to See - Ask God each morning: *"Show me someone who needs hope today."*
- Notice One Lonely or Overwhelmed Person - Be the one who checks in.
- Serve Instead of Spectate - Find a simple way to help in our homes, neighborhoods, church, local ministries, or school.
- Share Your Story - Write a 2-minute version of your testimony—be ready to use words intentionally.
- Take One Bold Step - Extend forgiveness, encourage someone, or invite a friend to participate in your journey.

Closing Prayer

"Jesus, open our eyes to see people the way You do. Show us how to be workers in Your harvest—compassionate, bold, and ready. Use our lives and our words to bring hope to others this week. Amen."