

HARVEST COMMUNITY CHURCH

June 4, 2006

"The Passion of Youth Ministry"

(Matthew 9:35-38; John 4:31-38)

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Matt. 9:35-38 (NIV) 35Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. 36When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

John 4:31-38 (NIV) 31Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something."

32But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about."

33Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?"

34"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. 35Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. 36Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. 37Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. 38I 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."

I. Know your crop.

- 72 million strong

- A material generation
- A violent generation
- A spiritually searching generation

II. Know where the field is.

- The one thing that they have in common is that they all go to school.
- We must take the combine out of the barn (Proverbs 25:13).

III. Know how to harvest.

- Expect some weeds (John 10:38).
- Use the sickle and the combine.
- Let them experience the threshing floor of creative worship.

IV. Know your workers.

- Build a team of youth leaders.
- Parents play a huge role in presenting truth to their children.
- The best evangelistic harvester of teens is another teen.
- Proverbs 10:5

V. Know the owner of the field.

- Remember Jesus is the Master of the field.
- John 10:10

All of our lives must be a model and example of faith, purity, and prayer.

June memory verse: 1 Timothy 6:6-7 (NIV) ⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.