

**THE COMPASSION OF JESUS
VISION SNAPSHOT 2012
MATTHEW 9:35-38**

THE COMPASSIONATE SHEPHERD

1. Matthew 4:22-25 and 9:35-38 “bookend” Matthew’s accounts of Jesus authoritative **teaching** and His authoritative **deeds** (Matt. 5-9).
2. Matthew 10:1-4 describes the “Master’s Men” and the **empowerment** they received.
3. Jesus said the road of His disciples will not be simple so He provides **solid boundaries** (Matt. 10:14-25).

Jesus is the **compassionate** Shepherd (Matt. 9:35-38).

I. JESUS ACTIVELY CARRIED MINISTRY TO THOSE WHO HAD TREMENDOUS NEED (MATT. 9:35).

- A. Jesus both **preached** and **taught** in this public ministry.
- B. Jesus **revealed** Himself to the people He loved and gives them no honest reason to reject them (see Matt. 10:6, 14).

II. JESUS COMPASSIONATELY LOVED THE PEOPLE (MATT. 9:36).

- A. “Distressed” (weary) = “to skin or flay” or “to mangle” with the concept of these people being **exploited**.
- B. “Helpless” = “to cast or throw **down**” or “to **scatter**”
- C. These broken people were without the protection of a **shepherd**.

III. JESUS OUTLINED OUR MISSION AND THE METHOD TO ACCOMPLISH IT (MATT. 9:37-38).

- A. The mission is to bring in the great harvest for souls.
- B. The method is to pray for God's power to fall on the ministry.

THE VISION SNAPSHOT

Prayer connects us with the power and wisdom we will need.

The plan is to provide a dynamic Sunday Morning Children's Ministry.

1. Format: VBS style with AWANA components
 - High energy
 - Gospel focused
 - Parent Inclusive
 - Worker Sensitive
 - Compassionate
2. Promotion
 - Invitation Cards
 - Banners on corners
 - Email blasts
 - Networking
 - Website
3. Believing God for...
 - Late February – 30 Kids in Sunday School
 - Mid-April – 60 Kids in Sunday School
 - Mid-August – 90 Kids in Sunday School
 - End September – Evaluation of specified standards of faithfulness