

## Sunday Service ~ March 2, 2025

### Service for Swansea & Charlestown Presbyterian Church

#### Welcome & Prayer

*"If the LORD had not been on our side— let Israel say— <sup>2</sup> if the LORD had not been on our side when people attacked us, <sup>3</sup> they would have swallowed us alive when their anger flared against us; <sup>4</sup> the flood would have engulfed us the torrent would have swept over us, <sup>5</sup> the raging waters would have swept us away. <sup>6</sup> Praise be to the LORD, who has not let us be torn by their teeth. <sup>7</sup> We have escaped like a bird from the fowler's snare; the snare has been broken, and we have escaped. <sup>8</sup> Our help is in the name of the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth."*

Let us pray. Dear Lord and Father of mankind thank you that we can come to you for help in our time of need. We come this morning to praise you for your power and for your passion, your sovereignty and your sincerity, your faithfulness and your fellowship, your control and your care. Where else can we go to for help? Who else is able to save us from our sin? From ourselves? From our world? From all that is around us? But you. You alone are worthy of our worship. You alone are the one we want to live for. You alone are the one whom we can trust. So, we turn away from all other distractions and come to you. We place our sins before you and ask for forgiveness. We offer ourselves to you as living sacrifices, wholly & pleasing to you and you alone. May this be our spiritual act of worship this day & may you again become our God, our father and our friend. Amen.

#### Song – 10,000 reasons

[Matt Redman - 10,000 Reasons \(Bless The Lord\) \(Lyrics And Chords/Live\) - YouTube](#)

Chorus Bless the Lord O my soul  
O my soul  
Worship His Holy name  
Sing like never before  
O my soul  
I'll worship Your Holy name

2. You're rich in love  
And You're slow to anger  
Your name is great  
And Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness  
I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

1. The sun comes up  
It's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass  
And whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing  
When the evening comes

3. And on that day  
When my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will  
Sing your praise unending  
Ten thousand years  
And then for evermore.

#### Bible Reading – Matthew 9:18-26 (NIV)

<sup>18</sup> While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live." <sup>19</sup> Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples. <sup>20</sup> Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. <sup>21</sup> She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed." <sup>22</sup> Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed at that moment. <sup>23</sup> When Jesus entered the synagogue leader's house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, <sup>24</sup> he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him. <sup>25</sup> After

the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up.<sup>26</sup> News of this spread through all that region.

## Announcements

**Focus for Month: Relationship with God.** Do want to deepen your relationship with God? Because it just won't happen. You need to create space for it, spend time with the Lord, read his word, pray and prioritise worship. What are you willing to do today to grow in your relationship with God?

**SRE Dedication service TODAY** from 2pm at New Vine Beaches Church @ Jewell.

**Breaking the Silence Training.** Please note that all of our people who are involved in leadership and children's ministry need to either do the full Breaking the Silence training (every three years) or a top up (the in between years). That means that if you would like to continue to serve in this way you need to do something NOW about it. The Top up training will be held TODAY from 11:30am-12 noon at the Charlestown Church. If you can't make it you can do it online at <https://breakingthesilence.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/BTS-2024-Other-Policy-Code-of-Conduct-Dec-2024.pdf>

**Charlestown Presbyterian FC Player Registration** Our church participates in the Hunter Christian Churches Football every autumn and winter. Player registration is now opened for the Church men's and women's team. If you're interested in joining or know someone who might be interested in playing one of our teams, please contact Sam Taylor or Cheryl Gillard.

**Charlestown Redevelopment.** (If room) Please continue to pray that we find the right builder at the right price who can complete the job in the right time frame.

**Tonight.** If you were encouraged by our young people reporting back on their time in Vanuatu then you will be greatly encouraged by coming to Sunday @ 6 tonight where a number of our young people will make their profession of faith.

**New City Catechism – Question 8. What is the law of God stated in the 10 commandments?** *You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below—you shall not bow down to them or worship them. You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Honor your father and your mother. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony. You shall not covet.*(Exodus 20:1-17)

**Small Groups.** Don't forget to consider joining a small group.

**Interested in Mission to Kenya?** The annual mission Samburu Seminar will take place on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> march from 10am -5pm in the Hunter Valley. For more information, please see Chris Hutchin or Stephen.

**Women's Paint n Sip.**

**Upcoming Dates**

- Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March Working Bee
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March World Day of Prayer (Charlestown Uniting & Caves Beach C3)

## Pastoral Prayer

**Pray for Iran. (Population 89 million, Christians, 800,000).** For God to protect secret believers and give them a spirit of wisdom and courage. For the mental and physical wellbeing of Christian prisoners and their families. That God will bless and protect the growing Church as believers share the gospel.

**Pray for Hamilton Presbyterian Church.** Give thanks for growth and new people coming to each of the services at Scots Kirk. Please ask for God's blessing with some changes including the morning service time moving to 10 am, a weekly prayer meeting at 9am on Saturday, a women's bible studies meeting fortnightly 10 am on Tuesdays, a weekly evening study at 7pm and SRE. God's wisdom and direction is also requested for plans such as a men's bible study and a teenagers event entitled "Bible Unplugged" meeting on the first and third Tuesday of each month 5-6pm.

**Pray for a way forward amongst Israel and Palestinians.** That the peace fire would hold. That the rhetoric would go down. That the international community can help find a solution to this complex problem.

**Pray for single believers** that You would give them strength today to see You in the midst of their situations. Would You please help them to find great delight and joy in You. Prevent them from comparison. Protect them from the lies of the enemy that would cause them to feel discouraged in this calling that You have for them. Reveal to them beautiful blessings each day as they serve You where they are.

## Bible Reading – Matthew 9:27-38 (NIV)

<sup>27</sup> As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!"  
<sup>28</sup> When he had gone indoors, the blind men came to him, and he asked them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" "Yes, Lord," they replied.  
<sup>29</sup> Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith let it be done to you";  
<sup>30</sup> and their sight was restored. Jesus warned them sternly, "See that no one knows about this."  
<sup>31</sup> But they went out and spread the news about him all over that region.  
<sup>32</sup> While they were going out, a man who was demon-possessed and could not talk was brought to Jesus.  
<sup>33</sup> And when the demon was driven out, the man who had been mute spoke. The crowd was amazed and said, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel."  
<sup>34</sup> But the Pharisees said, "It is by the prince of demons that he drives out demons."  
<sup>35</sup> Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.  
<sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on 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 workers are few.  
<sup>38</sup> Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

## Song – His mercy is more <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fAa2C1yoQ-0>

1. What love could remember

no wrongs we have done  
 Omniscient, all knowing,  
 He counts not their sum  
 Thrown into a sea  
 without bottom or shore  
 Our sins they are many,  
 His mercy is more

Chorus x2

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more  
 Stronger than darkness, new every morn  
 Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

2. What patience would wait

as we constantly roam  
 What Father, so tender,  
 is calling us home  
 He welcomes the weakest,  
 the vilest, the poor  
 Our sins they are many,  
 His mercy is more

3. What riches of kindness

He lavished on us  
 His blood was the payment,  
 His life was the cost  
 We stood 'neath a debt  
 we could never afford  
 Our sins they are many,  
 His mercy is more

Chorus x2

## Sermon – Too Busy? (Stephen T)

Sermon link: [https://youtu.be/Qf2jO\\_lfU5E](https://youtu.be/Qf2jO_lfU5E)

When we go to Vanuatu at times it seems the locals live in slow motion. It is not that they are lazy but they value relationships over projects. Spending time with people over doing things. So, we come over with our list of things to do and a very short time frame and we want to fit as much in the time we have as possible. But they love to talk, to linger, to laugh and to share because they do things in Vanuatu time not Western time.

And sometimes I think that Jesus' life was more like their lives than ours. Life 2000 years ago in the Middle East didn't have mobile phones, or computers, or diaries or even watches so it worked at another pace. A much slower pace. But not always. For when we come to Matthew 9, we see that Jesus can fit a lot of things into one 24-hour day. Yes, at times life would have moved at a slower pace but other times an awful lot happens in a day.

Slide 2

For at the start of the chapter, we see that Jesus comes back to his home town and he heals a paralyzed man. But notice in verse 9 that *"as Jesus went from there. He had dinner at Matthew's house."* Alright two incidents happen on the very same day which ended with a debate with the Pharisees. No, in verse 14 we read *"then John's disciples came and asked him"* about fasting. So, another debate is entered into. So, time for Jesus to have a lie down?

No, verse 18, while he was saying this a synagogue leader came to him. And he heads off to deal with a potential funeral. But no before he gets there, verse 20, a woman with bleeding touches his cloak and Jesus heals her from her sickness and shame. He then heals the synagogue leader's daughter. But, verse 27, as Jesus went on from there, he still has time to heal two blind men and then according to verse 32 a demon possessed man. And still there is time for one last debate with the Pharisees.

Slide 3

What a day! Yes, Jesus did live in a totally different culture, one with a much slower pace. But at the very same time, he knows what it is like to walk in our shoes as well. He knows what it is like to be extremely busy. To be pushed and prodded by people all around him. To have very little personal space. Don't forget he had just three years to preach the gospel, to care for the sick, to model godliness and to set up the Church which would go world-wide!

How could he possibly do all of that in around 1000 days? We will find out one of Jesus' secrets to doing that right at the end of our passage. And it involves training a team of disciples. Enlisting ordinary people like you and me and empowering them to do his work in his way. Now is that something you & I can fit in during our busy lives? Is that something we can find time to do in the midst of home, family, work, Church, sport, life? Well, it will come down to two things vision and prayer. Let's look at this very busy day of Jesus, starting with

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### 1. Two Women (verses 18-26)

<sup>18</sup> *"While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live." "You can make her live!"* Wow, that's faith isn't it! She's dead and he knows that Jesus can bring her back from the dead. She is about to be buried, as this is often done on the same day at a person's death, but Jesus can make the casket redundant. If the centurion from last week had great faith, this synagogue ruler had enormous faith!

Or is it faith or desperation? If that had been your daughter, your sister and she was just 12 years old, you would be devastated as well. You would be looking for any possible solution, at least until she died. After that there is no hope is there? No doctor or even faith healer could do anything now. Except Jesus. He is able to help but is he willing to help? Well, yes, he is! <sup>19</sup> *"Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples."*

Slide 5

But this is not the only needy person in Capernaum. There is also a woman who had been bleeding for 12 years who is in desperate need of Jesus help. Its an interesting juxtaposition.

A young girl 12 years of age who has died and a woman who has been bleeding for 12 years still alive. And Jesus stops to talk to her. Now how does the synagogue official feel about this? Jesus, we don't have time to muck around here. My daughter has died. D- I -E -D! Do you get it? That's more important than anything

else, anyone else. I know you are a busy man but this is an emergency. But no, the synagogue ruler has to wait.

Slide 6

<sup>20</sup> Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. <sup>21</sup> She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed." <sup>22</sup> Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed at that moment."

Now here is another woman in a desperate situation. 12 years she has been sick, 12 long years. But not just sick but unclean. Because her menstrual bleeding meant that she needed to separate for 7 days after any bleeding but because this bleeding had gone on and on, this separation from others lasted not 7 days but 12 years. And while she was separated, she couldn't be involved in any worship services or parties or weddings or funerals.

So, this is not just a physical sickness but a social isolation and spiritual separation and I am sure that would have caused her great emotional anguish as well. Like the synagogue ruler, she too is desperate. But is she also a bit superstitious? "If I only touch is cloak, I will be healed." It sounds a bit dodgy, a bit magical, doesn't it? But Jesus doesn't think so because he tells her that her faith has healed her.

Slide 7

Let's think about it for a second, if the woman asks Jesus to touch her like the synagogue ruler is asking him to touch his daughter, then Jesus will become unclean. So out of a deep respect for Jesus she makes sure that doesn't happen & she seems to have a deep respect for the law and so she doesn't want to break that either so her faith leads her touch the hem of his garment because she trusts that even that is close enough for Jesus' power to heal her.

And that's exactly what happens. It may look like her faith is imperfect but I think its bold and its brave and its beautiful. And it reminds me that faith looks differently to different people. Which means you don't have to have all your theological ducks lined up in a row to come to Jesus. You just need to come to him by faith. You need to do what this lady did and push your way through the crowd, empty handed, with nothing to give except an expression of faith. For you are never lost in the crowd if you are in the presence of Jesus.

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Sir James Simpson, the inventor of chloroform at the end of his life was dying and a friend said to him "You will soon be resting on His bosom." To which he replied "I don't know if I can do that, but I think I have hold of the hem of his garment." And friends that is enough.

The hem of his garment is enough for power to be transferred from him to us. Just come to him in faith. Trust him for your suffering, your loneliness, your sin, your hurt. Gods power is available for us right now. Power to heal often, but at the very least power to hang on, power to be forgiven, power to grow in faith, hope and love.

Slide 9

In this case it was power to heal and when Jesus gets to the house of the synagogue ruler, his daughter receives the power of life itself. <sup>23</sup> "When Jesus entered the synagogue leader's house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, <sup>24</sup> he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him. <sup>25</sup> After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand & she got up. <sup>26</sup> News of this spread through all that region."

The friends and families weeping and wailing can't bring this little girl back to life. But the touch of Jesus hand could. It has the power to turn death into sleep. To turn helplessness into hope.

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Here we see two women healed by Jesus. Two expressions of faith that lead people to put their trust in Jesus. Two reminders that in the midst of a busy day Jesus cares for people.

Which also challenges us in our own faith. Do we believe that Jesus can give us life and healing? Are we willing to trust him even if we don't know as much as other people do? Will we reach out to him today, ask him to touch our lives and change our lives. Have I come today to Church today in order to grow my faith and part of that is knowledge and another part is putting that knowledge into action?

Slide 11

## 2. Two Women and then **Two Men.**

<sup>27</sup> "As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!"

<sup>28</sup> When he had gone indoors, the blind men came to him & he asked them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" "Yes, Lord," they replied. <sup>29</sup> Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith let it be done to you"; <sup>30</sup> & their sight was restored."

Now did you pick up what is unusual about this healing? Jesus passes the two blind men by. For the first time in the gospel Jesus just keeps on walking. He stops for the synagogue official and for the woman with menstrual bleeding but not these blind men. Why is that?

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Is he testing their faith? Does he not want to respond to title "Son of David" which in those days meant the Messiah? Or is he just wanting to get home and put up his feet after a busy day? I don't know and we are not told. But these guys show their hunger for healing, their faith in Jesus by not giving up after the first attempt. Instead, they follow him, even when he goes indoors. And that faith leads to restored sight. The spiritual sight they had in believing that Jesus was the Son of David and Jesus could heal them, is rewarded with physical sight.

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But here is where it gets a bit complicated. For the first thing these blind men do is disobey Jesus. For "Jesus warned them sternly, "See that no one knows about this." <sup>31</sup> But they went out and spread the news about him all over that region." He gives them a direct command, don't tell anyone else about this. And that's exactly what they don't do. You see Jesus is busy enough. He has many things to do before he dies on the cross and he wants to have God's agenda at the top of his to do list, not everyone else's competing agendas.

Slide 14

But the blind men's disobedience leads to even more demands on Jesus' time. <sup>32</sup> "While they were going out, a man who was demon-possessed and could not talk was brought to Jesus. <sup>33</sup> And when the demon was driven out, the man who had been mute spoke. The crowd was amazed and said, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel." <sup>34</sup> But the Pharisees said, "It is by the prince of demons that he drives out demons."

And it also leads to a further clash with the Pharisees. The blind men think they are doing the right thing and, in another context, telling people about the power of Jesus would be the right thing. But faith is not about doing what you think is the right thing but trusting Jesus' word and following Jesus commands.

Slide 15

But before we are too hard on these blind men, we often do the exact opposite. For doesn't Paul tell us in Colossians 4, "Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders, make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."

Now recently my mum just moved into a retirement village and as I was talking to her, she told me the elder that used be my elder in my home Church and his wife who was also an elder of that church was just around the corner in another apartment. So, after we walked around the complex we decided to drop in and see them. And they were not very wise in the way they dealt with my mum an unbeliever. Instead,

they were complaining about all the things that have gone wrong with my old church in the last year or two.

Friends we are told to preach the gospel and instead we go quiet. We are told to be gracious and often our words are far from gracious. We are encouraged to know how to answer everyone but rarely do we prepare ourselves for the questions that will come our way. We are told to make the most of every opportunity but if you are like me, opportunity often knocks and I am busy with too many other things to even open the door.

Slide 16

### 3. Two women, two men and thirdly **Too Few (Verses 35-36)**

With the news that Jesus can heal getting out, more and more people are looking for his healing touch. With the crowd increasing, the leaders of the Jewish religion are feeling the pressure and are fighting back. And yet in the midst of all of this, the good news has to go out. In Galilee there might have been around 3 million people but that was only a small section of the Promised land. There were even more people down south in and around Jerusalem. And then there was the Samaritans, the God fearers and the rest of the world.

And Jesus already has more than enough on his plate. How is he going to ensure that all people hear about God's good news? How does he set up a structure that will raise up more and more evangelists, more and more pastors and teachers, more and more servant hearted believers, more and more Churches?

<sup>35</sup> "Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."

There is just so much to do in and around Capernaum – teaching, proclaiming, healing. Everywhere he turns the size of the mission seems so huge. The work is so great that Jesus will need many, many more workers. But I sense that the disciples were using their man eyes while Jesus was using his mandate eyes. Everyone else was looking around with a me first type attitude while Jesus' heart was filled with compassion.

Notice he was not repulsed by the crowd's sin. He was not turned away by their illnesses, he was moved in his guts. He was stirred deep inside of him. Because before him were sheep without a shepherd or maybe a better way of putting it was, they were sheep without a good shepherd. For there were leaders who had been tasked with shepherding God's people but they were only looking after themselves and had forgotten about the flock.

Slide 17

And Jesus knows that God's sheep, God's people can't survive on their own. They need a shepherd who will feed them and protect them, care for them and love them. And ultimately that is what Jesus came to do. Not just to heal, not just to teach, not just to proclaim but to claim his sheep back & bring them under the Lord's good shepherding care.

And it is Jesus compassion that gives him the eyes to see what others can't or won't see. Today we know that compassion is a good thing but it wasn't always valued in the ancient world. In those days leaders needed to be strong and take control. And there is a view even today that that is what good leadership is all about. But Jesus models for us a shepherd leadership, a servant leadership that is filled with compassion. That really cares about others. That is moved by others hurts.

Slide 18

William Booth was the founder of the Salvation Army. He once sent a group of his workers to a difficult town and they failed in their efforts to reach the people. They telegraphed General Booth reporting they

had tried everything, but nothing worked. They tried everything they could think of to touch the people there. They fed them, clothed them, and housed them, but there was no response. They asked for his orders. General Booth telegraphed two words in response: Try tears. His point? Jesus wept for his people. And he is the model of how we do ministry. He wept. And we should weep.

Friends, I'm not a crying person but I have to ask myself as I expect you to ask yourselves. When was the last time I cried over the people in this Church? Over the suburb that I live in? Over the nation that I am a citizen? Over the billions of people worldwide who don't know about Jesus? Friends where is our tears? Friends where is our compassion?

The world needs to hear the good news of Jesus. It is not just good news for us, it is for all people. Its good news for the harassed mum of toddlers, for the overworked businessman or woman, for the porn user, for the one who is addicted to too much gaming or their phone or sport or just themselves. Jesus looked at his world through eyes of compassion and we won't see the needs of everyone around us unless we see things through Jesus eyes and are filled with Jesus' compassion ourselves. And leads us finally to

Slide 19

#### 4. Two Applications (Verses 37-38)

Firstly, we have see, what Jesus saw. *"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."* The harvest is plentiful, there are many people who at the end of the world will be found to be believers. But there are people in our Churches, in our families, in our communities, in our sporting clubs that are currently like sheep without a shepherd. Do you see that?

Do you see the size of the problem, it's a world-wide problem, not just a local problem. Do you see the extent of their suffering. Sin has disfigured them, blinded them, consumed, them hurt them. They are on their own. They need their good shepherd. Do you see that? That was you at one time but you now know that he leads you beside quiet waters, he guides you toward green pastures, he restores your soul. But others don't yet realise it.

They are running after pleasures and pursuits and people in this world thinking that is the secret sauce to life, when its Jesus. These sheep are currently separated from everything that is good and true. Friends we have to see these things through Jesus eyes. If I spend too much time watching tv or listening to music or surfing the net I will look at life through those eyes. I need the compassion of Jesus to affect my heart and my vision.

And then I need to <sup>38</sup> *"Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."* Jesus doesn't say see and go. He says see and pray. He doesn't say see the harvest and make hay while the sun shines, he says here's the harvest so pray to the Lord of the Harvest. No matter how many things God has on his agenda list he is still in complete control. He will make sure that the preaching of the gospel goes out. So, pray to Him.

Pray that people leave our Churches and go to the mission field. Pray that they will be trained up to become elders and deacons and ministers here and elsewhere. Pray that our people would be equipped to go into their workplaces and make the most of every opportunity. That they would be wise as they deal with their home life and the spare time.

Slide 20

In September 1857 Jeremiah Lanphier invited people to pray with him during the lunch hour one day a week. The first day no one turned up, then there was 6, 40, soon 100. In less than 6 months there was a 6,000. Soon prayer meetings were launched all over the north west of America. In June 1958 it was estimated over 100,000 people were converted through these prayer meetings. Friends, God's mission starts with prayer.



And it is interesting that those who are called to pray, the disciples, end up being the ones that go in the very next chapter. Because vision, compassion & intercession leads to action.

Slide 21

I was reading an article a while back about the Qld salad bowl region. One farmer said, when the sun starts shining – anyone who walks through the gate will get a job. Well, that’s also what should happen amongst Jesus disciples. We all should have a job. But if we don’t know what to do, start with prayer & then keep praying. If you are unsure of what needs to be done, try and see things through Jesus eyes. And when the compassion of Jesus comes upon you, you won’t need to ask, you will be moved to play your part. In your own way, using your own gifts, in your own setting, you will find yourself a worker in God’s great harvest.

Friends, *“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Friends, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest field.”*

## Song – Facing a Task Unfinished

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOpt\\_bulJxY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOpt_bulJxY)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Facing a task unfinished<br/>That drives us to our knees<br/>A need that undiminished<br/>Rebukes our slothful ease<br/>We, who rejoice to know Thee<br/>Renew before Thy throne<br/>The solemn pledge we owe Thee<br/>To go and make Thee known</p>       | <p>3. We bear the torch that flaming<br/>Fell from the hands of those<br/>Who gave their lives proclaiming<br/>That Jesus died and rose<br/>Ours is the same commission<br/>The same glad message ours<br/>Fired by the same ambition<br/>To Thee we yield our powers</p> |
| <p>2. Where other Lords beside Thee<br/>Hold their unhindered sway<br/>Where forces that defied Thee<br/>Defy Thee still today<br/>With none to heed their crying<br/>For life and love and light<br/>Unnumbered souls are dying<br/>And pass into the night</p> | <p>4. O Father who sustained them<br/>O Spirit who inspired<br/>Saviour, whose love constrained them<br/>To toil with zeal untired<br/>From cowardice defend us<br/>From lethargy awake!<br/>Forth on Thine errands send us<br/>To labour for Thy sake</p>                |

Chorus: We go to all the world  
With kingdom hope unfurled  
No other name has power to save  
But Jesus Christ The Lord

## Benediction

<sup>36</sup> “When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on 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 workers are few. <sup>38</sup> Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” (Matthew 9: 36-38)