

scattered

LIVING AS A COMMUNITY OF HOPE AT A TIME OF DISPERSAL

HOLY TRINITY
JESMOND



11.00am **Sundays** in May **2020**

SMALL GROUP NOTES: Sunday 17th May – Week 3 ‘Scattered sheep’

Read together Matthew 9.35-38

What comes to mind when you hear these verses? Spend a few moments sharing with one another your first thoughts on these verses.

Bringing in the harvest

Jesus is at work in the local towns and villages around Capernaum – he’s in his home turf, his neighbourhood and the people just keep coming to him with their needs and expectations. His response is incredible – the Son of God looks on, is filled with compassion and says ‘I need help to bring in the harvest’.

What does it mean to ‘bring in the harvest?’

We often emphasise ‘sowing the seeds’ rather than ‘bringing in the harvest’ – why is this? What does this say about our culture and context today?

To what extent are we missing something important by our emphasis on ‘sowing’ not ‘reaping’?

What does ‘bringing in the harvest’ look like today?

Missionaries and ministers

Jesus tells the disciples to get praying that the Lord of the harvest will send more workers into the harvest fields. Traditionally this was understood to mean God’s call on individuals to serve him as missionaries abroad or salaried Christian work in this country.

Where are the harvest fields?

To what extent do these verses relate to ‘missionaries’ and ‘ministers’?

Do we think ‘missionaries’ and ‘ministers’ are the important workers in the field and the rest of us are just part time seasonal workers?

In what ways might these verses relate to us (i.e. are we all really missionaries and ministers?)

Lord, send more workers

Praying for God to send more workers is a dangerous prayer because he often says ‘will you go?’.

Have there been times in your life where you have felt God ask you to ‘go’ – it might have been abroad or to another context, or it might have been a prompting to ‘go’ to someone locally. What happened?

Spend some time sharing with one another.

Right now, this week – **how could God be asking you to ‘go’ into the harvest fields?**

Pray for one another and for our mission partners in the work they are doing internationally.