

The Harvest Is Now (Dutch)

by K.P. Yohannan

The sermon emphasizes the importance of living the life of Jesus and being part of a community of believers in order to effectively share the gospel with those who are waiting to hear it.

Duration: 1:00:21

Scripture: Matthew 4:19, Matthew 9:36, Matthew 10:16, Romans 10:15, 2 Corinthians 9:7, Philippians 2:3-4, James 1:27, 1 John 3:18, Revelation 7:9

Topics: "Missions Work", "Compassionate Living"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the call to follow Jesus and live a life of compassion and service, focusing on the urgency of reaching the lost and suffering in the world. It challenges listeners to pray earnestly for unreached nations, live simply, consider dedicating their lives to missions, and support native missionaries in sharing the gospel in difficult regions.

Transcript

Okay, we've got two microphone systems. If this doesn't work, this will work. Is it clear now? Good.

But I'll still hang on this. Good morning, dear. Good morning, everyone.

The question is not whether we need to change... The question is not whether we need to change... He said, I'm a psychiatrist. That's the problem. When a sick person comes to a doctor... The question is not whether he needs to be healed.

The question is how. How is it possible? That is Hindi, you didn't understand. When you get to heaven, you're going to speak Hindi.

So this is with all of us. I mean, think about all the books out there. How many messages have you heard? You know, we are in Dallas, Texas, in the United States.

There are 14 Christian radio stations. 24 hours they are preaching, singing, everything you want to hear. Some good Christian music.

Like you heard this morning. Then there's fast music. Then all the Christian music.

Then you have the rock music. It blows your brains out. I don't know what they're doing.

And then great preaching. We lack no information. For 1.2 billion people in the country of India... There's not one Christian radio station.

Half of the population has never seen one page of the Bible. In the country of Afghanistan. 17 million people.

That's half of the population of the Netherlands. 17 million? No, we have like 16, 17 million. The same population as the Netherlands.

I was thinking about Nepal. But in the whole country it is said maybe less than 200 Christians. We have some native missionaries sneaking from Pakistan into Afghanistan.

We have some native missionaries sneaking from Pakistan into Afghanistan. How much more information do you need before you can change? How many extra books do we need about the Bible before we start obeying? The problem is not that we do not know. The question is how we can change.

That is the question. And I'm glad you are here for this conference. You could have done a thousand things with your time.

You are a very special group of people. You know Jesus only had 12 people. He turned the world upside down.

They became world revolutionaries. Correct translation. You are correct.

You are good. I understand your language. And we from here can go and change the Netherlands.

You can change Europe. You can change the world. We must believe it.

That is the reason God brought us together. That is the reason Jesus took his disciples together. And it is possible for God to do impossible with our feeble lives.

I'm so glad for this organization. It's a strange name though, HeartCry. But it's a good name.

And the picture, the logo I like. Look like the cross is taken and stamped on the heart. Am I right? That's what we need.

And that's what we need. In Dutch we also say Hallelujah. It's easy to translate.

He thought we only eat pancakes. I would like to say some tangible, practical things about our Christian life. And I would like to answer the question how.

How can we change? And so you listen, not to find some deep meaning about anything I'm saying, but how I'm going to do it. And the scripture I want to read again is in the gospel according to St. Mark chapter 1. I think this morning our brother preached a fantastic message. I wish he continued.

I'm only going to add a few things he already said. That scripture Jesus says to his disciples, come, come and follow me. And I will make you.

Communists are brilliant people. It began with a handful of people. They took over one third of the world.

They didn't have great seminaries. No great conferences. It was on the job training.

That's what Jesus did. And on the way he explained to them stuff. And they learned along the way.

And then he sent them out to do things. And on the job. We are all on the job.

Christianity must never become a matter of information. You can have information and go to hell. And Pharisees went to hell.

A lot of preachers are going to hell. But that is not what Jesus is calling you for. It is to live his life.

And that's what he did with his disciples. Three and a half years. They will live with him.

This is what we have in our one school of discipleship in America. We invite 50, 60 young people to come and live with us. Oh yeah, yeah, yeah.

We have books about prayer. A lot of them. But they learn to pray.

You know how? They watch others pray. Oh yeah, yeah, yeah. We have books about fasting.

But they watch all the brothers and sisters fasting. They learn about humility. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

We have books about humility. But it is more about watching people like David and John and others. What it means to be a godly wife? How to be a godly wife? How to be a godly husband? You are a husband.

You are too young. Too icky. But you watch all the brothers who are husbands, how they live loving their wives and their children.

This is Christian community. I believe this is what God is doing among you. And that's the invitation Jesus gave.

Come and follow me. As we follow Him, we are walking in His footsteps. Just look at me.

Now, you don't have to do this, but if I am walking, and I say to you, come and follow me, and He follows me in the footsteps. According to His plan for your life, His footsteps will take you to places you must go. Your focus is Him.

That's what you already heard. One to pray. One to go.

One to give. One to do nothing maybe. But the focus is Christ.

Some years ago, my wife came to me with a letter in her hand. And she gave this to me. And said, you better sit down and read this.

And then she said something else. Don't speed read. Read carefully.

No, no, no. It was not a letter about her leaving me, or divorcing me, or angry with me. None of those things.

It was a letter that came from one of our native missionaries. He was walking by the holy river. Known as Ganges.

And once in ten years, they have a massive Hindu celebration called Kumbh Mela. Did a good job. At that time, when he wrote the letter, 35 million people came from all over the country.

To go into the river, and wash themselves for the forgiveness of sin. They never heard about the blood of Christ that can wash their sins away. They are very sincere people.

They are crying out to a God that will not answer their prayer. They are desperately longing for God. So this missionary who wrote this letter, he described this one story.

This day, from morning till evening, he was talking to people and explaining the gospel to them. And in the evening, he was coming home. And he saw a young woman sitting by the bank of the river.

And she was weeping. Not just weeping, but she was pounding upon her chest. In India, when you see something like that, culturally, it tells you something worse than death itself took place.

And he writes in the letter, I went and sat beside her. And I asked her, What happened? Why are you crying? What happened to you? She answered, My husband is so very ill, very sick. We are very poor people.

He cannot work anymore. And my sins are so many. I don't know what to do to find a solution for the problems of my home.

Forgiveness for my sins. I have given the best offering I can give. To Mother Goddess.

To the River God. I threw in my only baby boy in the river. Her six month old baby boy.

She threw her in the river. Then he writes, I opened the Bible. And explained to her that God did not make her poor.

That God loves her. That Jesus died for her. Her sins are forgiven.

All she must do is to believe in Him. After hearing all the explanation, he writes in the letter. She wiped her tears.

Looked straight into my eyes. And said these words, But how come you didn't come to me half hour sooner? I never heard this before. It is too late.

It is too late. And she went back crying again. I was no more sitting on my comfortable leather chair.

I was on my face weeping. And I said this to my Jesus. Every fiber of my being.

Every second of my life. Every penny I own. All that I have.

My dreams and ambitions. All I give to you. That I may never read another letter again like that.

That brought many changes in my own life. My brothers and sisters. What is Jesus all about? Did he come here to save his life? Did he come here like Americans say to have money and riches and fame? He said he came to seek and to save that which was lost.

And he said, as you heard this morning, Go! And these disciples were asked to forsake all and go. But they cannot go until they understand his heart. Until they understand his longing.

Have you ever read Gospel of Matthew chapter 10? I'm sure you have. And for you to come to this conference and not know the Bible, that would be strange. This is a wonderful place to be.

I'm surprised by the way you start your meeting by reading so many Bible verses. The emphasis you have on God's word. And all of your carrying book in your hand.

Even this daughter is carrying a Bible. But there is no line in it. You read this thing? He's a good brother.

See, Matthew 5, 6 and 7 Jesus talks about how I must live this life. Who is with him? Who is with him when he taught about that? A handful of his 12 disciples. It was not a big crowd.

It was you, your wife and your children. It is a father and son. It's a husband and wife.

It's a very tiny little group. He says, Hey, don't worry about tomorrow. Don't store up treasures on this earth.

Don't live by the car. You don't need to live like other people. Don't be proud.

Humble yourself. Be always hunger after God. And if somebody do wrong to you, don't attack.

When you are misunderstood, quietly suffer. And pray for your enemies. And don't judge.

And be more concerned about the inside. They say, don't commit adultery. But I tell you, don't think bad.

That is more dangerous. Your inner life is more important than your outer life. He told them about the purity of inner life.

And he said, your father is seeing you. And he said, your father is in you. Pray in secret.

Don't tell anything that you shouldn't tell people about your spiritual journey with God. Give away things that others may not know. Give away your money and whatever.

Not for others to see. See, I understand your language. I understand yours as well.

See, I'm teaching him. See, those are things Jesus, he was teaching. Then, he takes them on a journey.

He says, come and follow me. Chapter 8. Chapter 9. He shall read that to you sometime. It's a walk.

And they're walking with him. If you turn to the passage, you will see this. And they're stopping in many places.

One place, demon possessed people. Another place, lepers. Blind people.

Hungry people. Weeping people. Gospel for Asia has ministries in 38 leper colonies in Asia.

We have some 15,000 missionaries scattered in 14 different countries. 14 different countries. And they are people from their own countries.

Because you and I, foreigners, cannot go and live among these countries. So we train these people to go among unreached people or the neighboring people to preach the gospel. We have a movie called Wail of Tears.

Have you seen that? It talks about our missionaries walking in the leper colonies. And the movies in English, we can send it to you free just by asking for gfr.org. Go to gfr.org. And they will send it to you. And you will see in this picture, movie, thousands of precious people.

Nose gone. Their fingers are gone. And blood and pus oozing out of their body.

In one area, 2,000 families live. And nobody cares about them. The families disowned them.

The religion disowned them. Nobody owns them. Many of them go out to beg to make a living.

This is where our missionaries went. That place, we built a hospital. And a factory to make shoes for people who has no way to wear anything on their feet.

But there's a church also. And these missionaries, these sisters are washing the wounds of these people. Bind them up.

And all these people want just to die. Used to be hundreds commit suicide. But today, in many of the leper colonies, they heard about the Lord Jesus Christ.

They understood there's life beyond this life here on earth. They gave their heart to Christ. On Sunday morning, they gather for worship.

They're clapping their hands. But the fingers are missing. It's eaten away by leprosy.

But they smile. And they cry. It's unbelievable to see what God is doing.

This is what Satan has done to humanity. Then you find people demon possessed. In the state of Rajasthan.

Rajasthan is a state. India. We have hundreds of churches.

There's one congregation right in front of the church. There's a tree. And on the tree, they put up a cross.

And on the cross, there are 70 black threads are hanging on it. Each thread represent some individual who was demon possessed. Living without self-control in the community.

Each black thread on the cross represents a person who was demon possessed in the community. And the missionaries went there. They started preaching the gospel.

And they prayed for these people. He asks if we also have people in this country Who says yes? In Holland, demons are very clever. They hide very carefully.

In America also like that. But in India, in Nepal, and Pakistan, and many parts of the world. When we have open preaching and church meeting outside people come when the Bible is taught somebody starts screaming.

And they roll all over the place. See, I did that to scare you. And what do you do? They stop the preaching.

Go and pray for them. They are set free. And this one church there are 70 baptized believers all of them were freed from demon possession.

What are they? 70 people. Through preaching the gospel. There is one lady she was tied up in the house for seven years.

She was tied up for seven years literally tied up in her house. Think about her husband and her children. And she had a lot of demons in her.

And nobody could set her free. But the Lord Jesus Christ set her free. And she went out and she won 25 other families for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now don't forget this. Jesus taught the disciples about the inner life. In chapter 8 and 9 in the gospel of Matthew he is taken on a journey.

Come and follow me. And what are they looking at? They are looking at what Jesus is doing. They are seeing the suffering.

They are seeing the pain. They are seeing the agony. And they see the man Jesus.

I want to ask you did you walk in the footsteps of Jesus last week to Nepal? Did you see him weep over the destruction of people made by his own hands? The other day on the telephone the leader of Nepal said this to me. Bishop Naran said he was talking to an older man and he said he was talking to an older man and he said he was talking to an older man and this Hindu man said is there any more suffering than this? Eight members of his family all dead. He is the only one alive.

Is there any name for this kind of suffering? Where is God? Where is Jesus? Who will hear that question? Who will be the ear of Jesus? Who will be the eyes of Jesus? Who will be the knees of Jesus? Who will be the response of Jesus? Who will be the response of Jesus? Yesterday I showed a photo to my co-leader David Carroll and that photo was sent to me on the iPhone and that was from an older senior leader in Kathmandu, Nepal. He takes a bag of rice and gives it to a woman and I looked at the face of this Hindu woman she looks like a movie star such an incredible beautiful face. She must be maybe 20 on the street without any food to eat I said to myself she must represent maybe 20 other people.

She must represent another 20 people. So where is Jesus? He is not sitting in a fancy house. He is not looking to drive in better cars.

He is not in another Bible study to find deeper truths. He is walking on the streets among the subcultures among the red light district among the leper colonies but who will do it? You and I we are the Jesus today and brothers and sisters today he invites us to follow him. And you will find Jesus finally in chapter 9 in Matthew's Gospel.

It says he was moved with compassion and it explains why. Would you read that verse from 27 through 33. No, no, no.

Verse 35 to the end of the chapter. Verse 36 Matthew wrote that thirty years after the incident. And he is sitting down trying to figure out what to say about this Jesus.

And he talked about the words of Christ come and follow me. And he himself left his money profession and he followed Jesus. And then he saw all these things but he recalls he remembers oh that day oh I can't forget that day.

After just walking with him one day we saw him just weeping he was sobbing he just collapsed and we just stood there trying to figure out what is happening with him.

And then he said don't you understand don't you understand they are harassed they are helpless they are abused they are broken nobody cares everyone thinks about themselves my heart is broken and then he said will you go the harvest is plenty you know I come from a rice family rice farmers family in southern

part of India my people are farmers I have six brothers I am the youngest in my family and I remember during the harvest time all our people are like in America they say like the chicken with the head cut off nobody is taking rest nobody is going on a vacation just get the job done right now the monsoon is coming rain is coming everybody is working 24 hours why harvest is going to be destroyed soon what did Jesus talk about the people they are dying 2 billion people in our generation

wait to hear the gospel 180.000 die in that part of the world every single day and can't in eternity without Christ in Matthew's gospel chapter 10 Jesus said I send you as sheep among wolves you know what I wish Jesus said I send you as wolves among sheep but Jesus did the opposite we sent two muslim converts to work in an area some years ago two native missionaries Hussein and Salsu they knew it is difficult they won some people to Christ one day these two brothers are walking to the mission place a group of men met them and they said very nice oh you are Hussein and Salsu you came to tell us about Jesus and our brothers thought they were friends they were smiling but a man one of these people pulled out a dagger did you say steak yes steak oh in America steak means you eat no it's not

that he took a dagger a long knife and stabbed in the heart of brother Hussein and blood just pouring out and the court heard about Salsu stabbed him six times brother Hussein died on the spot and people all around took Salsu to the hospital these men ran away after a few weeks brother Hussein's wife's father father-in-law came from distant village but now here is a young girl with a little child in a strange place you mean his wife and the husband is dead and the father said my daughter come home he himself is a Muslim your husband is dead your God could not keep him come home I will take care of you and my grandchild you women and sisters I want to ask you you claim to be a follower of Christ and you are but the question is what kind this young Muslim convert this young girl now with

her husband murdered if you are in her place what would you say this young girl responded father you don't understand the Jesus my husband loved I love him the people that he ministered to they are my people I cannot come home I will stay here and raise my son to take his place and she still lives there what is her future what is the future of her son only time will tell and Jesus said I send you as sheep among wolves it is us wolves devour kill the sheep they themselves become sheep today we are 14 sisters living in these nations all of their husbands were killed for preaching the gospel follow me Jesus said what does that mean I must conclude with a few applications one you heard this morning that means someone who is really praying get the book oppression world oppression world you

have not heard oppression world book who knows this book oppression world it is about all the countries of the world hard cry he must get it done how do you pray for Afghanistan how do you pray for Iran how do you pray for India the book explains it every day you pray for some country I pray for Albania for many years for Bhutan for Pakistan you know what I tell you secret you are saying I am from another land I am a European 100 years from now are you going to live in another land I tell you secret no you are not going to be here you will be with Jesus live today not as Netherlands people live as Jesus people look away to a different world and pray honestly understand take one day of the week to fast and pray fasting if you die by fasting let me know I will fix your problem it is a lost

art of the church that is what Jesus said it be in earnest prayer for the lost world second application Jesus said follow me he did not offer his disciples wealth and riches like some Americans are preaching he lived simple many many years ago when I was living in America one time I had 70 neckties all silk European neckties neckties right you are not wearing one today you are more spiritual indeed he lived and some of my suits each suit cost more than 1000 US dollars I had so many shirts it took me half hour trying to figure

out color coordination the watch I was wearing he could buy 200 watches like this one with that money you are saying what kind of Indian is this I was a strange Indian evangelical and preaching but my heart was dying that's when the Lord talked to my heart he said

son half of the world go to bed with empty stomach and naked bodies why you need all this stuff live simple that is when I gave up everything I am not telling you to do that you can give up everything and go to hell just like any poor people Jesus didn't tell everybody to forsake everything but it was only to me I just got two jackets today very nice German shoes very simple I look nice no see nobody worries about that sort of things live simple give your resources to preach the gospel number three especially young people if God is calling you give your life some of you you can apply to our school in America come and spend one year with us then you can do the second year if you want go to some places to serve God Europe need to be evangelized Netherlands need to be evangelized but how

through your revolutionized life number four this is one thing I ask you to do you will not go to India you will not go to Afghanistan you will not go and live in Pakistan you will not go and live in Nepal but you can go that's what gospel for Asia does today we have some 15,000 brothers and sisters in all these nations Romans 10 says how will they go to preach unless we send them that's what you heard from my brother you can pray you can give your resources that's what Jesus did we have a table out there in the dining room I think David am I right yeah there are some cards like this and you can look at it this is in English you know English it says I want to help a native missionary you can help with American money about \$30 there are 300 people I think from all nations we can win

millions to Christ and we have some of my books going to be translated and still there in English you can go to gfa.org and get everything free and there is a website gfa.org gfa.org gfa.org and there all my books everything is free and I don't take any money out of it everything goes to the Lord's work listen to this today we have 2.7 million believers throughout these countries people that came to Christ through the native missionaries when you get to heaven when you get to heaven when you stand by the throne it may be a thousand people from Nepal that came to Christ because you loved and helped those Nepali brothers and sisters to preach the gospel I'm from China and Bhutan and I believe this reason I came here I usually never spend more than one day in any one place and somehow we

felt I should come to this meeting David and I felt very strong God has a ministry to the body of Christ in Europe through Gospel for Asia not just take your money no but together all of us and I want to be a blessing to you you know what I cannot wait for the day when we see Jesus face to face today I weep when I think about Nepal today I cannot wait for the day when we I weep when I think about weep I

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