

Text: Isaiah 54:2; John 14:12-14; Matthew 9:35-38

Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God. *William Carey*

Normal Christianity is doing the work of Jesus and doing even greater works.  
*John 14:12*

Maybe:: What we consider to be supernatural ought to be natural.

#### OUR WORKS WILL BE GREATER:

...because God is doing them through us

...because Jesus is already crucified, already risen & already reigning.

...because of the promise of answered prayer in His name.

Jesus' compassion led Him to urge His disciples to pray earnestly for the harvest.  
*Matthew 9:37-38*

#### WHY PRAY EARNESTLY?

So that our eyes see what God sees.

So our focus shifts from us to the Kingdom.

So we realize we are called to be a laborer.

So our works are greater.

PV, would you pray this? *JESUS, I EARNESTLY BEG YOU TO SEND OUT LABORERS TO REACH OTHERS WITH THE GOSPEL, AND JESUS, USE ME. I'M WILLING TO GO.*

February 21, 2016



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Food for Thought for the week of February 21, 2016  
(Questions and Scriptures for further study and discussion.)

1. Recall this week's sermon and review notes. What significant points did you find intriguing, challenging or perhaps unclear?

2. Can you recall a situation when you were in over your head with something bigger than what you could handle? What would you teach someone else from your experience? Read Luke 9:57-10:24 and Matthew 9:35-38

3. Jesus' followers were sent out ahead of Him into a huge assignment. Jesus instructed them to pray first. Have you ever experienced the situation of getting into the "go" before the "asking the Lord"? What was the impact of this effort?

4. What personal qualifications are necessary for anyone to respond to God's "go"? Are there any "off limits" in your thinking to being free to follow Jesus as did the persons mentioned in Luke 9:57-62?

5. Can you recognize any individuals, people groups, or situations that stir your concern? Have you considered that God may be molding your heart in this way to pray for and then reach out? Who may be a person or a place you are being led to go to? Examples?

6. Even when prayer precedes going, one may be met with welcoming or rejection. (Lk. 10:8-12) It is easy to take the responses very personally with self-congratulation of success or hurt of rejection. What is the truth we can hold onto, no matter what response we get? (verse 16)

7. In Acts 4:29-31, what were the main issues of prayer requests for those believers? How were their prayers answered?

8. As Jesus' followers at PV are entering 36 hours of focused prayer (and beyond), what from God's very heart might we open our own hearts to? Are you eager to have the mind, heart, purpose and call of Jesus to confront your will?

For further study:

Even though Jesus knew all the Father's plans, he prayed before taking action. Do you see a pattern in these recorded instances of Jesus' life? Mark 1:35-39; Luke 6:12-13; Mark 6:45-52; Luke 9:18-20; Luke 9:40-44; John 17:1-26; Matt 26:36-46

In Acts 4:29-31, what were the main issues of prayer requests for the early church believers? How did God answer their prayers?

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