

Made For More: Outreach

Discussion Guide for October 17 and 18, 2026

Summary

This message concludes the Made for More series with God's design for outreach. Like a pond that stagnates when nothing flows out, our faith becomes unhealthy if what God gives us never reaches others. Outreach is proclaiming the Gospel in word and deed in the public square, the everyday places we already go. From Matthew 9:35-38, we see Jesus' compassion for the whole person and His call for laborers in a plentiful harvest. The message closes by reminding us that outreach flows from our own encounter with Christ, just like the woman at the well.

Ice Breaker

Think of a time someone shared something meaningful with you, such as a story, a recommendation, or their faith. What made it land well (or not), and how did it affect you?

Key Verses

1. Matthew 9:35-38
2. John 4:28-29
3. James 2:14-17
4. Matthew 28:19-20
5. Acts 1:8
6. 2 Timothy 1:7

Discussion Questions

1. The message compared our faith to a pond with no outlet. Where do you feel you are mostly "receiving" (sermons, Bible studies, events) without much flowing out to others?
2. What does your public square look like (neighborhood, work, school, gym, coffee shop)? Who are the people you regularly see there?
3. Jesus' compassion led Him to act, not just feel. Which do you lean toward, deed (meeting physical needs) or word (sharing the Gospel)? How might you grow in the other?

4. James 2 says faith without works is dead. What is one small act of love you could offer someone in your public square this week? (Remember Mother Teresa: “small things with great love.”)
5. Which of the three common hurdles (not enough knowledge, not gifted for it, not wanting to offend) do you relate to most? How does the message’s response to it change how you see it?
6. Fear was named as the giant standing in the way. Where has discomfort kept you from sharing Christ, and how do God’s command and His promised presence (Matthew 28:19-20, 2 Timothy 1:7) encourage you?
7. Jesus’ vision in Acts 1:8 moves from Jerusalem to Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth. Where do you sense God inviting you to participate right now: locally, among other cultures, or globally?

Life Application

This week, ask God: *Who in my public square does He want me to love in word and deed?* Write down the names of a few co-workers, classmates, neighbors, or family members and begin praying for them daily. Then take two concrete steps. First, write out your 15-second testimony (there was a time in my life when... but God... now I am filled with...) so you are ready to share it. Second, offer one act of care, such as buying a meal, giving a ride, or babysitting. Consider inviting someone to an upcoming outreach event, and if you sense God stirring your heart toward missions, write “missions” on your connect card. Come ready next time to share what you did and how it affected you.

Key Takeaways

1. Outreach is a response to an encounter with Christ: we share because He came to us first, and we cannot pour out what we have not received.
2. Outreach means going out into the public square, the everyday places we already are, rather than only asking people to come to us.
3. Jesus has compassion on the whole person, so we are called to proclaim the Gospel in both word and deed.
4. The harvest is plentiful and the laborers are few. Sharing Christ is for every believer, not just those with a gift, and all you need is your own story of what God has done.
5. Fear is the biggest obstacle, but God has not given us a spirit of fear. He commands us to go and promises His presence and power, so sharing Christ is an act of love, not offense.