

WEEKEND TEACHING DISCUSSION GUIDE

30 Days to Greater Faith: Week Four

Teaching by Pastor Ken

WARM-UP QUESTION

- What is one area of your faith where you have experienced the biggest difference between knowing what God says and actually putting it into practice?

DISCUSS

1. Faith Is Lived Out

Pastor Ken opened by reminding us of James 1:22: *“Do not merely listen to the word and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”* We can hear truth, learn truth, and even agree with truth, but transformation happens when we put God’s Word into practice.

Throughout this series, we have been challenged not only to grow in faith, but to live out the faith God has given us.

Read *James 1:22*.

- Why do you think it is possible to hear God’s Word regularly without allowing it to transform the way we live?
- What is one truth God has been teaching you that you need to move from knowing to doing?

2. The Mission of Every Disciple

Pastor Ken looked at Jesus’ ministry in Matthew 9. Jesus consistently functioned as a **Herald, Teacher, and Healer**. He proclaimed the Good News, taught people truth, and brought healing into their lives.

When Jesus saw the crowds, He was moved with compassion because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Read *Matthew 9:35–38*.

Jesus said, *“The harvest is great, but the workers are few.”* Pastor Ken reminded us that part of being a disciple is being a herald, someone who carries the message of Christ and the hope He brings into every part of life and every relationship.

- What stands out to you about Jesus’ response to people who were confused, helpless, and searching for hope?

- What does it look like for us to be a herald of Jesus in the relationships and places God has already put us?

Pastor Ken also emphasized that the church has two sides of the same mission: **evangelism and discipleship**. We are called to reach people who do not yet know Jesus, while also helping one another grow deeper in our faith.

Read *Philippians 2:12–13*.

We are called to **work out** what God, by His grace, has already **worked in** us. As we live out our faith, transformation begins to happen in us, in our relationships, and in the people around us.

3. Serving Is Part of the Mission

Pastor Ken challenged us to consider how we answer Jesus' call to send more workers into the harvest. One practical way we do this is by serving.

Serving is not simply about completing a task. Our attitude matters just as much as the mission. We can be so task-driven that we forget the people around us, or so relationally driven that we forget why we are there in the first place. Jesus calls us to both love people and accomplish the mission.

Read *Philippians 2:14–18*.

- Why do you think Paul connects our attitude while serving with our witness for Christ?
- What changes when we begin to see faithful service as an offering to God rather than simply a responsibility?

Pastor Ken reminded us that serving opens the door to joy. When we serve others in the way God has gifted us, alongside other people, we experience a unique kind of joy that the world cannot offer.

4. The Compassion That Sends Us

Near the end of Jesus' earthly ministry, Jesus looked over Jerusalem and wept. He was moved with compassion because His people did not recognize that God had come near to them.

Read *Luke 19:41–44*.

Pastor Ken connected this moment to the baton pass that would soon take place. Jesus would return to the Father, but His followers would receive the power of the Holy Spirit and be commissioned to continue the mission.

Jesus' question is still being answered today: **Who will go?**

- What do you think it means to allow compassion for people to become willing to go, serve, and be sent?
- Where might God be asking you to say, "Here am I. Send me"?

5. The Application: What Will You Do?

Pastor Ken closed by reminding us that **the transformation is in the application.**

For those who are not currently serving, the next step may be Getting Started. Go through Getting Started, discover how God has wired you, and find a place to serve on one of the five Difference Maker Teams.

For those who are already serving, the invitation is to remember **why** we do what we do. We serve because Jesus has called us. After all, people matter to God, and faithful service is part of living out what He has put within us.

Jesus said that His desire is *"that my joy may be in you."*

- What is one practical step you can take this week to put your faith into action?
- How could your serving, generosity, hospitality, or willingness to help someone else encounter the love of Jesus?

CLOSING REFLECTION

Take a few moments to consider which statement best reflects where you are right now:

- I need to move from hearing God's Word to actually putting it into practice.
- I need to become more intentional about being a herald of Jesus in my everyday relationships.
- I need to take a first step toward serving.
- I need to remember the purpose behind the place where I currently serve.
- I need to ask God, "Where are You sending me?"

PRAYER

Close by thanking God for the grace He has already worked into our lives. Ask Him to help us become people who do not simply hear His Word but live it out.

Pray for compassion for the people around us and for courage to carry the message of Jesus into every part of our lives and relationships. Ask God to raise up more workers for the harvest, to give each person clarity about how they are gifted and where they can serve, and to fill His people with His joy as they faithfully serve.

Pray that as we live out our faith, God would grow us and use us to bring transformation to communities, families, marriages, and lives for generations to come.