**THE OTHER 6**

July 3, 2016

**Life Group Discussion Questions:**

1. Since the one true almighty God of heaven and earth reigns over all 7 days of the week, why might people think he is mainly concerned with how they spend their Sundays?
2. Read **Matthew 9 verses 9-13**. Matthew, probably considered a traitor by other Jews because he cooperated with Roman occupiers of the land by collecting taxes, seems an unlikely candidate to become a disciple of Jesus. Why, then, would Jesus look at Matthew and say, “Follow me”?
   1. Why do you think Jesus spent so much time with tax collectors and other “sinners”?
   2. In this passage and many others, Jesus visits in the homes of people of low social status and influence, even sharing meals with them. As a follower of Jesus today, how can we do what Jesus did, love as Jesus loved? Might there be a greater cost to following Jesus than we at first supposed?
3. Read **Matthew 9 verses 35-38**. When Jesus looked at the crowds of people who were coming to hear him teach, in one village and city after another, the passage says Jesus “had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless…” In what ways are we just as helpless and needy as the very people who crowded around Jesus?
   1. Today, where is the “harvest” Jesus talked about, and who are the “laborers”?
   2. Why aren’t there more “laborers”? What excuses/rationalizations too often come to our own minds when we are faced with an opportunity to show our faith by our works? (See **James 2:18-20** for why “faith apart from works is useless.”)
   3. In **Luke 10:2-3** Jesus said he sends out laborers as “lambs in the mist of wolves.” Do you think this description applies to Jesus’ followers today?
4. In **Luke 5:1-11** Jesus calls common fishermen to leave everything and become his disciples. Like Matthew the tax collector, the passage says, “they left everything and followed him.”
   1. Jesus tells them, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.” What did Jesus mean when he said they would be “catching men”?
   2. Following Jesus, living for him, will be hard for us at times. How can we let go of fear and instead experience joy and gladness as we bear the cost of following Jesus?
5. In **John 4:35-38** Jesus again refers to the fields ready for harvest.
   1. Jesus told his disciples, “the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps’.” What did Jesus mean?
   2. Why will the sower and the reaper rejoice together? Is one of them more important than the other?

**Application and Prayer:** Ask God to open your eyes to how you can honor him every day of the week in every area of your life with every person you meet. Ask God to increase your faith and make you brave. Then, go follow Jesus.