

NOW + NEXT*Gethsemane Now: Three Truths*

Gethsemane has been blessed with long, effective, stable pastorates.

THREE TRUTHS TO GUIDE US AS WE MOVE FORWARD

- **First Truth:** This is the Lord's Church, not ours.
Matthew 16:18 - *And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*
- **Second Truth:** It is the Lord's Mission and He calls us to it.
Matthew 9:36 - *When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.*
Matthew 9:37-38 - *Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."*

A "Harvest" means we must sow the seed. That takes workers. Our specific task? Pray.
- **Third Truth:** This must be a season of being a courageous church with courageous people
Joshua 1:9 - *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."*

GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY

Joshua 1:5-9

⁵ No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. ⁶ Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. ⁷ Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. ⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. ⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Matthew 9:36-38

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."