

Sermon Theme: Growing Deeper in Mission (Missions Month)  
Sermon Topic: What Did Jesus See by Dr Casey Lok  
Sermon Text: Matt 9:18-26; 35-38

Introduction - Shepherd Metaphor

- What is the condition of your heart, how are your spiritual eyes? -> Can we see what Jesus wants to teach us?
- What he saw moved him to answer the call
- He saw sheep without a shepherd
- Timothy Laniak: the shepherd image is about perspective as much as praxis. These are the kinds of effects and affects a metaphor should have.
- The sheep without a shepherd: harassed and helpless

**1. Social: Human Slavery and political situation**

- Human life was cheap, men and women were bought and sold
- For slaves redemption was a longing desire for freedom from slavery
- They expected Jesus to lead a political rebellion
- Timor Leste and Syria, instability and unrest.

**2. Physical sicknesses and death**

- Jesus did many healing miracles
- Death: physical death can be scary, especially if someone doesn't know Christ, but faith in Jesus dispels all fear, we are snatched from the darkness of hell into the light.
- Jesus raised three people for death, widows son, the centurions daughter, Lazarus
- Jesus was moved with compassion, moved in the bowels (the inward parts of the body, the seat of love and pity)
- Jesus wept - he wept when he saw how people suffer with physical death
- Jesus saw, felt and moved to compassion

**3. Spiritual: slavery to sin and Satan**

- He saw that the people once freed from sin now lived as slaves to sin and Satan
- Greek "Agora": means market, fallen men in the slave market under the control of sin
- Greek "Agorazo": to buy from the market, emphasises the terrible place from where we were redeemed
- Unreached people and unreached nations. (Redemption) 1 Cor 6:20
- Ezekiel 22:13 - stand in the gap to pray for Israel, where he found no one faithful

- Japan:-
  - Youth prostitution: Japanese teenagers are selling their bodies to business men to make money
  - Suicide
  - Spiritual apathy
- When you see as Jesus saw, participation in missions becomes inevitable
- Christopher Wright: our mission means our committed participation as Gods people, at gods invitation and command, in gods own mission within the history of gods world for the redemption of Gods creation.

### **Conclusion**

- harnessed: to flay (Greek), method of slow and painful execution in which skin is removed from the body,
- Helpless: He saw that people were in trouble, like being flayed alive and unable to save themselves.

### **How Can You See What Jesus Sees:**

- Pray!
- Involving in missions through your vocation (family, work/school, church and society)
- Read books regarding missions such as biographies, etc.
- Ask for prayer request and pray more regularly for missions work
- Contribute financially to mission work
- Join a mission trip
- If you have felt God's call to serve Him in Christian work, step out in faith and do the necessary.
- Other areas:

### **Discussion Questions**

1. Death of someone within a family or community can be devastating and its effects on us can be astonishing (such as feelings, emotions, period of grieving, etc.). What do you think? Share any demise of any loved one or near-death experience (such as a serious accident, critical illness, etc.) that you might have encountered in the past and how that incident has shaken you in any way.
  
2. Every believer in AMC can play the role of either a “goer” or a sender in missions. Both of these roles are needed to make any mission work possible; one cannot do without the other. What are reasons or factors that can either encourage or prevent you from being involved in either being a “goer” or a sender? (“Goers” are Christians who become missionaries, join a mission trip, etc. Senders are Christians who support missions in finance, prayers, etc.)