**Rethinking the pipeline**

**horizontal line**

**Session 1** - Principles & reality

1. Remembering the harvest
2. Examining the pipeline

**Session 2** - Practice & future

1. Considering the future pipeline
2. Asking Lord of the harvest to send out workers

**horizontal line** 

1. What are the obvious stages along the pipeline? (From regular church goer to pastor)
2. Define and rank the training ‘elements’ of the pipeline?
3. +ve results / effects?
4. -ve results / effects or limitations?
5. **Remembering the harvest**

Matthew 9:35-38

* *The urgency of mission*
* *The certainty of persecution*

**1.** The fundamental response of Christ is **COMPASSION**

*‘We become tired; our compassion seems to dry up as we are called upon to exercise it again and again, with no seeming change in the nature of the news [and our lives]. We harden ourselves a little, and find it easier to philosophise about evil and suffering than to weep over it or do much about it.*

*Anyone who has engaged in extensive public ministry knows that emotional burnout is a great danger. When it takes place, genuine ministry is traded for mere professionalism. The high goals with which we began may dissolve in the acid bath of sheer need. We may become more proficient; but we may also become more mechanical, less compassionate.’*

*(Don Carson, p.112, When Jesus confronts the world, expo of Matthew 8-10).*

**2.** The essential call of Christ is **PRAYER**

*‘What, then, should be done? Should we begin with training sessions to enable us to multiply the evangelizing force? Should we plot a major strategy of recruitment? Should we found a few strategically placed seminaries? Or perhaps we should begin by establishing two or three international foundations to help pay for these plans? At some point or other, all of these may be good steps to take. But they are secondary steps, not to be attempted until considerable energy is poured into the first step. And the first step is to pray to pray to the Lord of the harvest, that he would send out workers into his harvest field.’*

*(Don Carson, p.115, When Jesus confronts the world, expo of Matthew 8-10).*

*‘Jesus' compassion issues in prayer, and in a call to pray. It may be that if we fail to pray, it is because our compassion is defective. Or it may be that our compassion is engaged, but our diagnosis of the problems and their remedies is faulty, prompting us to devote all our energies to what are at best secondary solutions. But if we align ourselves with the compassion of the Lord Jesus, and his analysis of the most urgent needs and their solution, we shall learn to pray to the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest field.’*

*(Don Carson, p.117, When Jesus confronts the world, expo of Matthew 8-10).*

The harvest is plentiful and the workers are few - how should we respond?

- hearts full of **COMPASSION**

- **PRAYING** to the Lord of the harvest

- so **HE** might raise up and send out **WORKERS** into the harvest fields.

1. **Examining the pipeline** 

* **Facts about our constituency**
* **Facts about current pipeline**
* **Stats from most recent 9:38 conference**
* **Pipeline inhibitors**
* Culture
* Theology
* Leaders
* **ENTRANCE** (The 3 **P’s** at the door!)
* **P**
* **P**
* **P**

**So what about the FUTURE? - Gen Z’ers (1997-2013)**

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/gen-z/>

1. **Considering the future pipeline**
2. **More biblical?**
3. More **Christlike?**
4. More **realistic**?
5. More **willing** to partner?
6. More **adventurous**
7. More **courageous**?
8. More **prayerful**?

**An honest analysis and reality check on our pipeline health!**

Prayer **—-------------------------------** Process

Biblically driven **—-------------------------------** Pragmatically driven

Pipeline to serve **—-------------------------------** Pipeline to utilise

Kingdom growth **—-------------------------------** Kingdom of the pastor growth

**An honest analysis and reality check on our health…and anyone considering ministry.**

* in love?
* repentant?
* weak & vulnerable?
* trustworthy?

**QUESTIONS?**

1. Is the pipeline too short?
2. How can we make the entry point to the pipeline…
   1. More accessible?
   2. More diverse?
   3. More #
3. How can SWGP serve
   1. Training course for MT’s
   2. Training for elders / leaders
   3. Ministry conversations & ‘9:38 tea’
4. **Asking Lord of the harvest to send out workers**