

# Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

## Pray Go 2020

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### Introduction

We live in a society that prioritises wealth and status. The more we have (money, qualifications, experience, etc.) the greater our ranking. Whether we realise it or not, as Christians we might have set a high bar for pre-Christians to become part of the Kingdom. Jesus, however, did the exact opposite. During His time, He kept the bar low. Jesus welcomed people from the fringes of society to be part of His movement. Matthew the tax collector (Matthew 9), the Samaritan woman (John 4) and the demon-possessed man (Mark 5), to name a few. These people were in pain - physically, mentally and spiritually - and He healed them and turned their lives around. But the stories never stop there. These recent followers of Jesus began testifying about Him and bringing people to Him. They immediately started a movement.

### Read

Matthew 9:9-17, Matthew 25:31-46

### Discuss

1. Who were the people around the table at Matthew's house? Who did this offend? Why?
2. Read Matthew 9:17. Jesus is talking about harvest (wine) that cannot be contained in an old container (wineskin). New wine cannot be poured into an old wineskin because the old, stiff wineskin would burst from the fermenting of new wine. What or who is the new wine and new wineskin in this metaphor?
3. Read Matthew 25:40-45. How do you see Jesus in this parable? Why do we need to be Jesus with skin on in today's world? Based on this passage, how do we do that?

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4. God is raising up everyday, ordinary people to see Jesus' movement happen. We as disciples play a part in that movement and we need to be in sync with God's desire for our lives. What does having the same desire as God look like to you? What stands in the way of this?
5. What do you think God is calling you to? What are you going to do about it?
6. Think about the everyday, ordinary people around you. Name one person in your life right now that you would like to bring into this movement.

### **Respond**

God is raising up ordinary, everyday people to start movements that cannot be stopped. He desires for us to participate, and as Christians we are to desire that too; to be Jesus with skin on, to disciple and to multiply. Jesus did that by engaging with those around Him. He had conversations and helped people along the way, and those people kept their movements going by doing their part in their own environments. How are you going to start yours?