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Reading

Romans 5:1-8 (Common English Bible)

Therefore, since we have been made righteous through his faithfulness,<sup>[a]</sup> we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>2</sup> We have access by faith into this grace in which we stand through him, and we boast in the hope of God's glory.<sup>3</sup> But not only that! We even take pride in our problems, because we know that trouble produces endurance,<sup>4</sup> endurance produces character, and character produces hope.<sup>5</sup> This hope doesn't put us to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.<sup>6</sup> While we were still weak, at the right moment, Christ died for ungodly people.<sup>7</sup> It isn't often that someone will die for a righteous person, though maybe someone might dare to die for a good person.<sup>8</sup> But God shows his love for us, because while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

Gospel

Matthew 9:35--10:8

<sup>35</sup> Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.<sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.<sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;<sup>38</sup> therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

<sup>10:1</sup> Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness.<sup>2</sup> These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; <sup>3</sup> Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup> Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup> These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans,<sup>6</sup> but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.<sup>7</sup> As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'<sup>8</sup> Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment."