KICKED OUT FOR THE KINGDOM

In Luke 10:2, Christ proclaimed to the seventy disciples before they went out, “The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” While the translation is mildly put as “send out,” the original Greek is ekballo and is more akin to “throw,” “cast out,” or “violently thrust forth”! The sense is more forceful than the translation suggests. Christ indicated that these laborers had to be thrown forth into the work of the harvest!

Jesus uses the same word when casting out demons in Luke 11:20, and it is used when He Himself was “thrown” into the wilderness to be tempted for forty days in Mark 1:12. The sailors of Acts 27 “ekballo-ed” the wheat into the sea to lighten their ships. This word connotes a lot of action: Jesus was asking the seventy to pray for God to launch forth “ballistic missile” workers into His harvest work.

This week’s lesson looks at the fourth stage in the process of discipleship: harvest. All the efforts of preparing, planting, and cultivating have come to this point where souls are ready to make a decision for the kingdom of God. This is where the entire process comes to a climax, yet ironically, “the laborers are few.” How willing are you to be a kicked-out disciple for the kingdom of God?
Write out John 4:28–38 from the translation of your choice. If you’re pressed for time, you may write out John 4:36–38. You may also re-write the passage in your own words, outline, or mind-map the chapter.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

**Circle** repeated words/phrases/ideas

**Underline** words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw **Arrows** to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse in John 4:28–38. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

Is your prayer life more fervent for temporal, gastronomical needs or eternal, cosmological interests? Why?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/disc09-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks overall seem to point to?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

How can you help your local church’s harvest?

For more information on the harvest stage and the Grow cycle, visit https://grow.adventist.org/harvest/.

Read more at www.inversebible.org/disc09-4
What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

Acts 20:20, 21
Matthew 9:35–38
Proverbs 6:6–11

What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with discipleship and harvesting?

Review your memorized verse from John 4:28–38.
Where do you see Jesus in John 4:28–38?

How is Christ calling you to harvest creatively for Him?

What is He saying to you through these texts?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/disc09-6
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study of the chapter, what personal applications are you convicted of in your life?

What practical applications must you make in your school, family, workplace, and church?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/disc09-7
Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

If we pray the prayer of ekballo, what can we expect to see happen?

Why is it that Christ’s disciples often don’t get it—they're caught up with temporal interests when spiritual realities lie right before them?

How are we the same? Or different?

Who are the Samaritans of your life?

How has your discipleship developed through your local church’s public evangelism plans?

Besides public speaking, what are other forms of harvest? Can digital harvesting occur?

How can you avoid awkward harvest scenarios?

Are there decisions in your own life that you need to make for Jesus now?