



Verse of the day for Monday September 7, 2026 - Luke 6: 27-28

"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you."

Read Luke 6 for meditation and inspiration.



“COME LABOR ON”

“THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL BUT THE LABORERS ARE FEW”

Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

I came across an amusing cartoon where two men are sitting on a park bench, engaged in earnest conversation. One says to the other, "Just remember, no man is worthless. He can always be held up as a bad example." Well, I know that there are times when I was just that kind of example and other times when I was so grateful that no one saw me during one of those moments in life when I was not the person, I want others to know.

Everything in life that has meaning, and value is rooted in God's Grace – even those who sometimes set a bad example (which includes all of us).

In the New Testament, St. Paul begins all his letters by reminding the people to whom he was writing of the Grace of God. "Grace be with you," he says. Jesus came to reveal that Grace to us: to show us what it is, to show us that it is real, to show us that it is available. But he also came to show us that we acquire that Grace for our lives through the totality of our response to God. This becomes clearer when we are not at our best self, when we mess-up, when we loose some of the control that we hold ourselves in check, when we “loose it”. Then we rely on God’s grace in the knowledge that nothing can separate us from the love of God found in Christ Jesus - even when that thing that seems to threaten our connection with God comes from

somewhere deep inside us and surprises even us. “Wow!” we proclaim, “where did that come from?”

However, that same merciful and forgiving grace also calls us to be God’s instrument of saving grace for others. We are called to be laborers in “God’s vineyard” spreading the “Good News” of the Gospel of God’s love through Jesus to others.

During a time of great ministry Jesus laments in this passage found in Matthew which records it this way: *“35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, **“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; 38 pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”*** (Matthew 9:36-38)

Living by God’s grace we are to be those laborers. Sending through our gifts or being as laborers with sleeves rolled up ready to spread God’s love near and far.

In the Kingdom work ahead,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roger".

Roger