

SERMON NOTES

Preacher: Kevin Hardy

Date: June 23, 2024

Text: Mark 2:13-17

Title: Jesus Came for Sinners

Big Idea: Jesus came to call sinners to repentance.



I. THE CALL OF DISCIPLESHIP (v. 13-14)

A. Jesus teaches (v. 13)

B. Jesus calls Levi (v. 14)

“It may be that contact with Levi was actually more offensive than contact with a leper since a leper’s condition was not chosen whereas a tax collector’s was.” – James Edwards

Becoming a Christian is the greatest miracle in a person’s life!

II. THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP (v. 15-17)

A. Jesus offends the Pharisees (v. 15-16)

While these scribes are offended at Jesus being in such close contact with these people – what we learn here is that Jesus was all about calling these types of people! (sinners in need of saving!)

B. Jesus’ qualifications for table fellowship (v. 17)

Jesus’ response to their criticism is profound and foundational to our understanding of His mission.

Two Types of People:

- Those who are well: righteous (“those who think they are righteous” NLT)
- Those who are sick: sinners (“those who know they are sinners” NLT)

Jesus is saying they’re all sinners and He is stating what His mission is.

“Sickness doesn’t disqualify you from seeing a doctor—in fact, it’s the only thing that qualifies you. The only qualification for table fellowship with Doctor Jesus is knowing that you are with sin.” – Dave Griffith-Jones

III. APPLICATION

- Jesus CHALLENGES you to see your need for Him today.
- Jesus COMFORTS you in that He clearly shows that He came for people just like you.

No one is beyond the reach of God’s mercy and the invitation to follow Jesus is open to everyone. Recognize your need and live in dependence on Him.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

To be used for personal reflection and/or sermon-based small group discussion.

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READ Mark 2:13-17

Is there anything that is difficult to understand in the text, or a question you would like to ask the writer of the passage or the Lord?

Where is Christ in this passage? How does this passage relate to the person, nature, character or work of Christ? Luke 24:44 says all of Scripture is about Christ. So, how does this passage help you see more of who Christ is, what He has done, or allows you to love Him more?

What did Levi stand to lose by leaving his work and following Jesus? (v. 14)

Why do you think people of ill repute were so attracted to Jesus? (v. 15)

Notice how Levi's friends flocked to see Jesus. How can we as Christians draw non-believers to ourselves while remaining faithful to Christ?

From the Pharisees point of view, why would it be bad for a rabbi to eat with these kinds of people? From Jesus' point of view, why was it necessary that He do so?

In what way(s) is this story relevant to us? How do Jesus' words challenge and/or comfort us? (v. 17)

PRAY

Thank Jesus that he calls and eats with sinners, and that he's a doctor who can heal our sin disease. Ask him to help you to see and welcome other sinners in the way he does.¹

¹ *Explore Mark* by Dave Griffith-Jones