

Mark

Following Jesus Christ

Following Jesus Christ to Outsiders

MARK 2:13-17

Overview

In our passage, we meet a tax collector named Levi. He represents all outsiders, those who don't belong in society or with God. We also see Jesus arrive on the scene full of grace. Jesus loves to make outsiders into insiders as they find their belonging in him and the new redeemed community he is building. In response to the grace of Jesus, Levi connects his "outsider" friends to the great Physician Jesus who can heal their sin-sick heart and then be on the inside with him.

Notes

Personal Application

Reflection Questions

1. Why were tax collectors so hated? Who would be modern-day "tax collectors" in society today?
2. Do you struggle to love the "tax collectors" of our culture? Why or why not?
3. What does Jesus mean exactly in verse 17? How does that verse relate to the scribes? How does it relate to the tax collectors and sinners? How does it relate to you?
4. What about hospitality, in particular, expresses love, care, and acceptance to people?
5. Who is an "outsider" you could have over for a meal in the next few weeks? What could be potentially difficult about that event? What would excite you about inviting them over?
6. Spend some time in prayer for "outsiders" in your life and efforts to show hospitality to them.