

Sermon Notes - June 11 - Jesus Calls Sinners to Follow Him  
Matthew 9:9-13

I. Matthew

- Author of this Gospel, this is the narrative of his own call.
- One of the \_\_\_\_\_ ( or the \_\_\_\_\_ ) of apostles to be called  
- See chapter 10
- Jesus had already been preaching, teaching, doing miracles, healing, casting out demons - quite famous
- Tax Collector
  - Different types of tax collector jobs (educated, literate, good with writing and financial records)
  - Some collected \_\_\_\_\_ tax from those traveling and selling
  - Some collected tax on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
    - These tax collectors bid and paid for the right to collect taxes from certain areas, like towns.
  - Collected and contracted with the Roman - or in this case - King Herod Antipas (Galilee)
  - Considered unreligious people, perhaps even political \_\_\_\_\_
  - These people are \_\_\_\_\_

II. Jesus' Decision to Save and Heal

- Jesus decided that the last of His close group of disciples, His apostles, His insiders to have special powers and authority, would be a tax collector.
  - Matthew did not make a decision from his own heart to decide for Jesus.

- Matthew was not "good enough" or "religious" on his own. Matthew's own public life choice was to contract with the foreign government to collect taxes.

- It is Jesus' choice to call Matthew out of that life to a different life following Jesus.

- Jesus decided to have table fellowship with Matthew and Matthew's family and close friends
  - Table Fellowship had invited guests. "Reclining at table" - a special banquet for Jesus
  - Examples:
    - Wedding Invitation List
    - Political Party functions
    - Ethiopian meals
  - Jesus associated with " \_\_\_\_\_ people." Those people are \_\_\_\_\_ and maybe even \_\_\_\_\_ .

III. Following Jesus is not only outside actions, but inward forgiving \_\_\_\_\_

- Jesus quoted the prophet \_\_\_\_\_ , who ministered to the rebellious Israelites who would be viciously conquered by the Assyrians for their unbelief.

- Hosea preached the necessity for

\_\_\_\_\_ (forgiving love) and true \_\_\_\_\_ of God not only outward actions of sacrifice and obedience. God desires actions *and* faith.

- Jesus came to heal the entire person according to God's design
  - Matthew heard the call of Jesus and followed Jesus, the Pharisees refused.
  - Pharisees should have rejoiced that Jesus was willing to be with and change Matthew and his friends, they did not.
  - Matthew celebrated following Jesus, while the Pharisees rejected Jesus' mercy on Matthew.

*Jesus desires to heal and save all people. He calls sinners from own choice of sinful life to true life in Him.*