

LAF #2 – ACCEPTANCE
John 13:34,35; Mk 2:13-17;

05/08/2022
Sunday a.m.

SLIDE 1 – COVER SLIDE

SLIDE 2 – LOVE, ACCEPTANCE, & FORGIVENESS

- Christ followers/Hillsiders minimum guarantee to Jesus-seekers:
 - **LOVE** – unconditional, w/o strings, chosen love - in every circumstance
 - **ACCEPTANCE** – you will be received with love, dignity, & grace
 - **FORGIVENESS** – no matter how you've sinned/fallen, God's forgiveness is available for the asking

SLIDE 3 – LOVE ≠ LICENSE

SLIDE 4 – ACCEPTANCE ≠ AGREEMENT

SLIDE 5 – FORGIVENESS ≠ COMPROMISE

SLIDE 6 – JOHN 13:34,35

SLIDE 7 – LOVE ONE ANOTHER *A NEW COMMANDMENT

- John 13 – Last Supper – Christ issues His New Commandment – BIG DEAL

SLIDES 8-11 – MARK 2:13-17

SLIDE 12 – JESUS & THE 'SINNERS'

- Synoptic (common view) gospels text – **Mt 9:9-13; Luke 5:27-32**
- Jesus sees Levi/Matthew – publican (aka tax-collector)
- Tax-collector; employed by local Roman govt officials; collect tax, can keep whatever they collect over tax due amount
- **Eating w/Tax-collectors/sinners:** WHY is this bad? It's ritually unclean; they don't keep Torah; give/receive hospitality = personal acceptance/warmth

SLIDE 13 – GOSPEL GOOD NEWS FOR ALL (?)

- **Luke 4** – The mission of Christ – declare KOG is at hand; spread GGN
 - Based on the response of Pharisees: who is the GOOD NEWS for?
- Jesus intentionally went to those who NEEDED forgiveness, redemption, a way out of sin; people who recognized their need for Him
 - Vs. the self-righteous, the proud, the religious

SLIDE 14 – (JESUS CAME) TO SEEK & SAVE THE LOST (ZACCHAEUS)

- **Luke 19:2-10** – Jesus & Zacchaeus – Jesus entered Jericho, passing through
- Zacchaeus – a short man – couldn't see over the crowd; climbed a tree

- Jesus got to his tree – Zacchaeus – come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.
- Z – welcomed Him gladly; was Z a believer yet? What'd he want w/Jesus?
- 19:10 – Son of Man came to seek & save the lost

SLIDE 15 – EMBRACE THE PROCESS

- In salvation stories – what is changed in the salvation process?
- How much of belief system, character, etc. changed when begin w/Christ?

SLIDE 16 – JUSTIFICATION

- Made right before God – by grace, through faith – HS power
 - **Justification** – made right before God → forever changed

SLIDE 17 – SANCTIFICATION

- The ongoing process of being made holy before God – HS power – **Rom 8:11**
 - **Sanctification** – being made holy before God → forever changing

SLIDE 18 – THE HARD QUESTIONS

- Will Christ-followers/Jesus seekers be accepted BY ME (& Hillside) w/o judgment or rejection? What does this look like, lived out?
- What do people have to do to be accepted/acceptable to ME?
- What are my 'El Guapo' areas of behavior/sin/flesh?
- If Jesus-seekers can't be guaranteed acceptance where they are, when they come to us/Hillside, WHERE can they?
 - What about if/when they're still a mess in many areas? (lots to clean up)
 - What are they to do when wrestling w/lining up w/Jesus ethics? (process of being made holy/clean?)
- Where/how am I working through my own 'holiness' & Biblical ethics journey?
- Where/how am I presenting myself to the power of HS for convicting of sin, righteousness, judgment? Being led into truth?

SLIDE 19 – WHAT ARE WE DOING WITH THIS?

- What do we take away as the 'point'? Life application?
- What does it look like, lived out, to ACCEPT people in this way?
- If/since the life of a Christ-follower/disciple = continuing to grow in the goal of Christ-likeness, how am I doing this in my own life w/what & how I think, believe, interact w/others, etc...?

SLIDE 20 – THE BLESSING – NUMBERS 6:22-27