

**Scripture Reading: Luke 5:27-32**

**Sermon Title: The Narrative: Jesus, Levi, Tables, & Us**

**The welcome of Jesus is *breathtaking & life-altering*.**

After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth. And he said to him, “Follow me.”<sup>28</sup> And leaving everything, he rose and followed him.

<sup>29</sup> And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of *tax collectors* and *others reclining at table with them*.<sup>30</sup> And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”<sup>31</sup> And Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>32</sup> I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”

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*“It’s those for whom the status quo isn’t working that have the eyes to see.”*

Amy Peeler

**In relation to God, *we are all tax collectors*.**

**The welcome of Jesus is breathtaking, *regardless of who we are or what we have done*, Jesus extends His welcome to us.**

**The welcome of Jesus is breathtaking, *regardless of who we are or what we have done*, Jesus extends His welcome to [me]**

**The welcome of Jesus is breathtaking, *regardless of who we are or what we have done*, Jesus extends His welcome to [\_\_\_\_\_]**

And Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>32</sup> I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”

**The welcome of Jesus is breathtaking; *it’s received not earned*.**

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*“Repentance is a grace of God’s spirit whereby a sinner is *inwardly humbled & visibly reformed*...it is a spiritual medicine made up of six special ingredients...sight of sin, sorrow for sin, confession of sin, shame for sin, hatred of sin, & turning from sin”*

-Thomas Watson. The Doctrine of Repentance

*Sight of sin*

**Repentance involves acknowledgment & ownership.**

*Sorrow for sin*

*Confession of sin*

*Shame for sin*

**Repentance involves contrition & confession.**

Hatred of sin

Turning from sin

**Repentance involves turning from & turning towards**

**Repentance is an act of faith & the first step of freedom**

And Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.

**The welcome of Jesus is breathtaking; it makes people whole again.**

**Receive the welcome of Jesus & allow it to reshape your entire life**

<sup>28</sup> And leaving everything, he rose and followed him. <sup>29</sup> And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them.

**The welcome of Jesus is life-altering, Levi entered Jesus’ world & work.**

And leaving everything, he rose and followed him

And Levi made him a great feast in his house,

**The welcome of Jesus is life-altering, it causes us to deploy our resources in worship of Jesus & service of others.**

and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them. <sup>30</sup> And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples,”

**How did the disciples feel about this?**

**How would you feel about this?**

**Jesus is embodying the relationship He is after by experiencing a meal together.**

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,  
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

<sup>7</sup> And he will swallow up on this mountain

the covering that is cast over all peoples,  
the veil that is spread over all nations.

<sup>8</sup> He will swallow up death forever;  
and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces,  
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the Lord has spoken.

<sup>9</sup> It will be said on that day,  
“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.  
This is the Lord; we have waited for him;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

Isaiah 25:6-9

**Every meal we see with Jesus embodies a better future banquet.**

**Jesus is turning an ordinary table into a sacred temple.**

And Levi made him a great feast in his house

**Every meal we see with Jesus embodies a better future banquet, and every meal we share with others can be the same.**

**Life with Jesus** turns our ordinary tables into sacred temples.

**Consider who is connected to you but disconnected from Jesus, bring them to the table**