

Sermon Title: Follow

Sermon Series: The Way

Scripture: Matthew 9:9-13

Speaker: Pastor Ian Bonthron



Christ died for my sins and rose from the dead, and I embrace it.

What path has Jesus encouraged people to _____ on?

Those least like Jesus liked Jesus.

Matthew 9:9a ESV

9 As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth,

Who are First Century Tax Collectors?

Local people who collected taxes and worked for Rome

“...customs taxes, import and export taxes, toll bridges, crop taxes, sales tax, property taxes, and special taxes when there was a war, building project or campaign to finance.”

—Patricia Kasten

They could charge above the Roman tax and pocket the difference.

Luke 19:8 ESV

8 And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold."

Jewish people saw them as traitors and collaborators.

Matthew 9:10 ESV

10 And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples.

Matthew 9:9 ESV

9 As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him.

John 1:43-44 ESV

43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."
44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

John 1:45 ESV

45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

John 1:46a ESV

46 Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

John 1:46 ESV

46 Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

Follow me = _____ me

It implies an investment

Matthew 9:10 ESV

10 And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples.

Matthew 9:11 ESV

11 And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

Luke 18:11 ESV

11 The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

Matthew 9:12 ESV

12 But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.

Matthew 9:13 ESV

13 Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

“Jesus is saying He’s about _____ and _____, not religion and ritual.”

—David Whiting

Jesus calls people to believe, but before he invited them to embrace and trust him, he almost always invited them to follow first.

“People generally change fundamental beliefs in the context of _____ and _____.”

—David Whiting

Romans 10:9 ESV

9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Will you commit to _____ Jesus?