



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Mark 2:13–17

Questions for the Week: Who is it most difficult for you to imagine following Jesus? Who seems beyond redemption?

READ THE TEXT – Mark 2:13–17

The Structure

1. Call of Levi (Mark 2:13–14)
 - 1.1. Beside the Sea (2:13)
 - 1.1.1. Crowds were coming to Jesus
 - 1.1.2. Jesus was teaching
 - 1.2. Jesus saw Levi, Son of Alphaeus Sitting at the Tax booth (2:14; 3:18; see also 1:16, 19)
 - 1.3. Call and Response (Mark 2:14; see also 1:18, 20)
 - 1.3.1. Jesus says to him, “Follow me.”
 - 1.3.2. After rising, he followed him.
2. Eating with Tax Collectors and Sinners (2:15–17)
 - 2.1. While sitting, many tax-collectors and sinners reclined with Jesus and his disciples (2:15)
 - 2.1.1. They (Sinners? Disciples?) were many
 - 2.1.2. They followed him
 - 2.2. Scribes of the Pharisees Object (2:16)
 - 2.2.1. Seeing that he eats with sinners and tax-collectors
 - 2.2.2. They were saying, “why does he eat with tax-collectors and sinners”
 - 2.3. Jesus Hears and Responds (2:17; see also 1 Tim 1:9)
 - 2.3.1. Gnostic saying: “Those being strong have no need of a healer, but those having illness”
 - 2.3.2. Personal Mission: “I have not come to call righteous but sinners”

Activities and Questions this Week:

- Read and compare Mark’s version of this story with Matthew and Luke (Matt 9:9–13 // Luke 5:27–32).
- What transgressions placed a person in the category of “sinner”? (Read Luke 7:36–49)
 - Read Mark 8:38; 14:41
 - Read Luke 15:1–10
 - Read Luke 18:9–14
 - Read Luke 19:1–10

Weekly Questions:

- What does this passage say about God?
- What stood out to you from the text this week?
- What does this text say about the Lord's reign and what it means to be his set apart people?
- Who are the characters of this story?
- What does this passage invite us to:
 - Do?
 - Think?
 - Feel?
- How did the sermon or passage encourage you to Love God and Love People?
- Which characters do you identify with most in the story? Why?