



## SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“Matthew 9:9-17” on August 30<sup>th</sup>

### CONNECT

How did last week’s passage we read/discussed from Matthew 9:1-8 affect your week?

### DISCOVER: MATTHEW 9:9-17

What did the passage say or did you take away from the sermon this week?

How does this passage/did this sermon point us to Jesus or teach us about Jesus?

Jesus calls Matthew: Matthew, Mark and Luke all describe Matthew’s being called by Jesus the same way: Jesus said, “Follow me,” and Matthew DID. No questions were recorded, no hesitations were indicated. Matthew relinquished something of great value – a lucrative income and a comfy job. He had no idea at that time what God had in store for his future with Jesus!

- Matthew places the story of his calling right in the midst of story after story of miracles and healings – shows of Jesus’ power and authority. What do you think might have influenced Matthew’s sudden decision to leave everything behind, considering the placement of his own story? What does it say about Matthew’s heart and his ability to trust? Could you answer Jesus’ call like that?
- Matthew celebrated his calling with a banquet, inviting Jesus, the disciples, his tax collector friends and ‘sinners.’ Jesus joined him, seeing the opportunity to bring the gospel to those who needed to hear it AND to disciple His men by being with those who didn’t know Him. He was INCLUSIVE. What would His choice look like in today’s world, and how would He be received? Would you have gone to that banquet?
- Jesus was criticized by the Pharisees for dining with sinners; He responded by quoting Hosea 6:6. Do you find yourself bound up in tradition/ceremony/doing the ‘proper’ thing rather than spending time with people who have need and need mercy? What walls have you put around yourself to make you feel good about you?

Jesus used the discussion on fasting to point to His true identity – the Son of God became man to live out a rescue mission to bring salvation to ALL people.

- Why do you think John’s disciples were focused on fasting, while Jesus’ disciples were focused on His mission?
- How could you effectively use fasting in your Christian walk today?
- Where is your focus – on traditions and rules, or on Christ? How is this evident in your daily life?

Patches and New Wineskins: Jesus did not come to patch up the old religious system with its rules and traditions, but to bring NEW life – reconciliation with God! When we surrender to Him, He calls us to a whole new life! Jason shared that most of us spend our lives asking Jesus to ‘redo our drywall’ – to fix our symptoms when the problem is our foundation! He stated, “Jesus was a carpenter, but He didn’t come to drywall your house built on sand. He came to give you a whole new house! That’s where we find life and renewed purpose!”

- Consider your daily spiritual journey.....what is the true foundation of your life? Is it built on Jesus or on ‘religion’?
- What did your spiritual upbringing look like when you were a child?
- Have you followed the patterns established by your parents, or have you stepped out in faith like Matthew into what God created you to be – new wine in a new wineskin? Describe your pathway in following Jesus.
- 2 Corinthians 5:17: “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” How does this verse apply to your walk with Jesus today? What might God be calling you to do?



CHURCH

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE

## SERMON STUDY GUIDE CONT.

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### RESPOND

Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you as you watch CU Church online next week?

### PRAY

Praying for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.