

**TEXT: Matthew 9:1-13**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- All Men's Life Group Gathering is coming up on December 7th. You can sign up [here!](#)
  - Our next Parent Commissioning service is scheduled for November 20th. If you are a Covenant Member household that has recently had a child and you want to participate in this service as we pray over children and their parents, please ask your leader how to sign up.
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## **BIG IDEA: The King Welcomes the Broken.**

**Ice Breaker: What is one of your favorite or most memorable meals? What makes it special to you?**

### **Matthew 9:1-8**

- When the paralytic man is brought to Jesus, what does he first say to him? (v2)
- If you were a friend of the paralytic man, having just brought him to Jesus, how would his response have made you feel?
- Why does Jesus forgive the man of his sins before healing him?
- Do you often think of forgiveness of sin as your greatest need? Why or why not?
- What parts of your life would look differently if you did?
- Why did Jesus' statement make the Pharisees so angry?
- We know that God had not cursed the man like many of the Pharisees thought he did. However, do you think there are times that we are tempted to think that pain or difficult circumstances mean that God has left us or does not love us?
- What truths about God can you meditate on when you are tempted to think this?
- Religion often cares more about following the rules than submitting to the ruler, in what ways do you find yourself tempted to do this?

### **Matthew 9:8-13**

- Here we see that Matthew doesn't go looking for Jesus, Jesus goes looking for him. How does it make you feel to know Jesus was looking for you, not vice versa?
- What attributes of Christ's character does this reveal?
- What happens when Jesus says to Matthew "follow me"?
- In what ways or areas of your life is God calling you to imitate Matthew's immediate response to Jesus?
- What is the significance of Jesus having a meal with Matthew and his friends?
- What does seeing Jesus having a meal with sinner teach you about your relationship with him?
- Why do you think we sometimes find it difficult to welcome in those who are often cast out like Jesus did? What are some practical ways you can pursue this?
- Knowing that Jesus dines with sinners and welcomes the broken, what is one way God is calling you to change something in your life?