

Jesus . . . saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

Matthew 9:9b NIV

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Matthew 9:10-13 NIV

The Invitation to Follow Jesus is . . .

1. For imperfect people.

"It is not the healthy that need a doctor, but the sick."

Matthew 9:12b NIV

2. For not-yet believers.

"For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Matthew 9:13b NIV

3. An invitation to relationship.

I desire mercy, not sacrifice. I want people to know me more than I want burnt offerings.

Hosea 6:6b NIV/NCV

4. An opportunity to focus on where I am, rather than where others are not.

"Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged."

Matthew 7:1-2 NLT

It is God's kindness that is trying to lead you to him and change the way you think and act?

Romans 2:4b GW

Weekend Music:

Thank You Song (UPPERROOM) • King of all the Earth (Brian & Katie Torwalt)
Holy Forever (Bethel Music)