

INVITED TO SHARE IN THE KINGDOM

Mark 2:13-17 (NLT)

*Then Jesus went out to the lakeshore again and taught the crowds that were coming to him. <sup>14</sup>As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Levi got up and followed him. <sup>15</sup>Later, Levi invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. (There were many people of this kind among Jesus' followers.) <sup>16</sup>But when the teachers of religious law who were Pharisees saw him eating with tax collectors and other sinners, they asked his disciples, "Why does he eat with such scum?" <sup>17</sup>When Jesus heard this, he told them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."*

Mark 2:13-17 (NLT)

*God wants everyone to be saved and to fully understand the truth.*

1 Timothy 2:4 (ERV)

*Then Jesus went out to the lakeshore again and taught the crowds that were coming to him.*

Mark 2:13 (NLT)

1. Jesus taught the MASSES, not the ELITE.

2. Following Jesus means FOLLOWING in FAITH.

*As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Levi got up and followed him.*

Mark 2:14 (NLT)

3. Know WHERE you are.

*"And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere – in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

Acts 1:8b (NLT)

- Jesus kept company with the DISREPUTABLE.  
(Jesus, friend of sinners.)

- Recognizing your SIN makes you more aware of the need for a CURE.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me.

Psalms 51:10 (NLT)

*"And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own? <sup>4</sup>How can you think of saying to your friend, 'Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye? <sup>5</sup>Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye."*

4. Don't miss the OPPORTUNITY.

*"No one lights a lamp and then hides it or puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where its light can be seen by all who enter the house."*

Luke 11:33 (NLT)

*I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow.*

1 Corinthians 3:6 (NLT)

*"There is joy in the presence of God's angels when even one sinner repents."*

Luke 15:10 (NLT)