

# Encounters With Jesus: Matthew

April 18, 2021

**Scriptures:** Matthew 9:9-13; 6:19-34

**Bottom Line:** Get used to different

Not much is known about Matthew the tax collector other than this encounter.

## Matthew 9:9-13

### Verse 9

- Tax collectors were notoriously corrupt and despised

### Verse 10-11

- The scandal of Jesus going to his home and sharing the meal
- Sharing food with people who appeared far from God is one of the most distinctive aspects of Jesus' ministry

### Verse 12-13

- It's impossible to save a person who claims they don't need saving

## Three Lessons from Matthew's Encounter

- Radical call - the unpredictable grace of Jesus
- Radical change - Jesus turns people's lives upside down
- Radical commitment - there is no believing without committing

# LISTENING

Have someone in your group share a time where they encountered Jesus.:

- Set the scene! What was going on in your life at the time?
- How did you meet God? Was it through a person? Scripture?
- What was the message or feeling? What did it mean to you at that time?  
Has the meaning changed over time?

Take some time to see if anyone encountered Jesus through the story. Did He use this story to teach or encourage someone? Convict someone?

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Review Sunday's message. What stood out to you? What challenged you? Are there any lingering questions?
2. When have you felt "different" following Jesus? Did that come from people outside the Church, or from people inside the Church?
3. Who do you think are the notorious sinners in our culture?
4. Why is it so tempting for money to become our masters?