

Friend of Sinners

1. Introduce myself
2. Read Mark 2:13-17; Matt 9:12-13 scripture quoting Hosea 6:6
3. Characters
 - a. Jesus and four disciples -
 - b. Matthew
 - i. Our scripture calls him Levi
 1. He was a levite
 2. Role of Levites – to serve in the house of the Lord; He was serving Rome
 3. Jesus calls him to follow him, learn from him, and serve God
 - c. Pharisees
 - i. Who they were – Maccabbean revolt
 - ii. Their goal – guard God’s ways (slide); added additional guard rails beyond what God had asked, creating a new system
 - iii. Name means separate – attempted to separate from all Gentiles like priests
 - iv. Focused so much on not breaking the law that they missed connecting relationally with others
 - v. Many were quite sincere. Many thought they were doing what was right.

vi. Challenge: Who fits in your pharisee box? Who do you shun or exclude as you are judging their intentions, motivations, and actions?

- d. Sinners – “those who are sick”
 - i. Low status people – sinners, tax collectors, people who are misfits
 - ii. High status people – pharisees, scribes, rabbis
- 4. Chosen video – calling of Matthew
- 5. How Jesus engaged those who were not following God’s ways
 - a. Love and compassion
 - b. Befriending them, like Matthew
 - c. Like the President flying in to Madison, going to peace park and talking the homeless, and then leaving without meeting with the Mayor or Governor
- 6. David –
 - a. Cave of Adulm – Low status people
 - b. Became – his mighty men – high status people
- 7. How do we engage those who are not following God’s ways?
 - a. Outside of the Christian community
 - i. We can spend time and love people without doing what they do
 - ii. For example, an alcoholic shouldn’t go into a bar with people who are drinking. That would be sin. But the person can befriend an alcoholic.
 - iii. <Possibly use: Like cast system – people only spend time with their caste. In Pastor Dany’s church, there is no distinction.>
 - b. Inside the Christian community

i. To be discussed with story

8. Character of Jesus

a. We talked about the Pharisees, Matthew, and some disciples – Let's look at Jesus

i. Jesus called Matthew – a tax collector – is he calling you to him?

ii. Jesus wanted to eat with Matthew and hang out with him and his friends.

1. Does he want you to hang out with people like Matthew who are not worth hanging out with?

iii. Who fits in your pharisee box?