

Choosing Sick People

Matthew 9:9-13

Your church, beginning with you, must change its heart and its behavior, learning to build intentional relationships with people in your community who are not yet Christian.

(Tom Clegg, LIA)

New American Standard Bible.

9 And as Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man, called Matthew, sitting in the tax office; and He *said to him, "Follow Me!" And he rose, and followed Him.

10 And it happened that as He was reclining at the table in the house, behold many tax-gatherers and **sinner**s came and were dining with Jesus and His disciples.

11 And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why is your Teacher eating with the tax-gatherers and sinners?"

12 But when He heard this, He said, **"It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick.**

13 "But go and learn what this means, 'I desire compassion, and not sacrifice, (cf. Hosea 6:6 (3))' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners." (cf. Jer. 17:9)

The New International Version

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

10 While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and **"sinners" came and ate with him and his disciples.**

11 When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and 'sinners'?"

12 On hearing this, Jesus said, **"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.**

13 But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

The New Living Translation

9 As Jesus was going down the road, he saw Matthew sitting at his tax-collection booth. "Come, be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him.

10 **That night Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to be his dinner guests, along with his fellow tax collectors and many other notorious sinners.**

11 The Pharisees were indignant. "Why does your teacher eat with such scum?" they asked his disciples.

12 When he heard this, Jesus replied, **"Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do."**

13 Then he added, "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: 'I want you to be merciful; I don't want your sacrifices.' For I have come to call sinners, not those who think they are already good enough."

The New King James Version

9 As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him.

10 Now it happened, as **Jesus sat at the table in the house, that behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples.**

11 And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to His disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

12 When Jesus heard that, He said to them, **"Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.**

13 But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."