

**Mark 2:13-17**  
The Messiah Dines With Sinners

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**Jesus "Guards" His Identity**

Mark 1:35...went away to a secluded place...  
Mark 1:39 ... went to synagogues in Galilee...  
Mark 1:45 ...stayed out in unpopulated areas...  
Mark 2:1 ...came back to Capernaum...  
Mark 2:13...went out again by the seashore...

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**Jesus Confronts The Demonic World**

Mark 2:13 And **He went out again** by the seashore; and all the people were coming to Him, and He was teaching them.

vs. 12 – Capernaum  
vs. 13 seashore  
vs. 14 - Capernaum

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**The Chaotic Sea Motif**

1:16 As He was going along by the Sea...  
2:13 He went out again by the seashore...  
3:7 Jesus withdrew to the sea with His disciples  
4:1 He began to teach again by the sea.  
4:39 ...He said to the sea, "Hush, be still."  
5:1 ...came to the other side of the sea...  
5:13 ...and they were drowned in the sea.  
6:48 ...He came to them, walking on the sea...  
9:42 ...he had been cast into the sea.

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**Jesus Calls Levi In Capernaum**

Mark 2:14 As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting in the tax booth, and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he got up and followed Him.

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**Lesson 1**

➤ **Following Jesus Christ means that He owns all that we are and all that we have!**

Mark 10:21 Looking at him, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, "One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, **follow Me.**"

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### Lesson 1

➤ **Following Jesus leads to suffering now and eternal reward later.**

Mark 1:20 Immediately He called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went away to follow Him.

Mark 8:34b "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and **follow Me.**"

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### Losing Your Life To Find It

Matthew 10:34-36, 39 Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a man's enemies will be the members of his household...He who has found his life will lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake will find it.

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### The Messiah Dines With Sinners

Mark 2:15 And it happened that He was reclining at the table in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners were dining with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many of them, and they were following Him.

Luke 5:29 Then Levi gave Him a great feast in his own house. And there were a great number of tax collectors and others who sat down with them.

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### The Messiah Dines With Sinners

Mark 2:16-17 When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that He was eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they said to His disciples, "Why is He eating and drinking with tax collectors and sinners?" And hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick; **I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.**"

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### Three Parting Lessons

1. Status before God is only found by those who acknowledge they are sinners.
2. Each of us should not think more highly of ourselves than others at Christ's table.
3. God's ultimate demonstration of love is found in the act of Him calling us to His table.

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### 1. Only Sinners Have Status With God

Luke 18:11, 13 The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: "God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector..." But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, "God, be merciful to me, the sinner!"

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### 2. Don't Think Too Highly of Self

Romans 12:3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

Philippians 2:3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves...

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### 3. We Will Dine With Christ!

2 Samuel 9:7, 11b David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will surely show **kindness** to you for the sake of your father Jonathan, and will restore to you all the land of your grandfather Saul; and you shall eat at my table regularly..." So Mephibosheth ate at David's table as one of the king's sons.

Psalms 23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows.

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### 3. We Will Dine With Christ!

Matthew 8:11 I say to you that many will come from east and west, and recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven;

Revelation 19:9 Then he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.'" And he said to me, "These are true words of God."

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