

**Message Notes**  
**"Inappropriate. Outrageous."**  
**Jesus: The Gospel of Mark 6**  
**Mark 2:13-17**  
**February 27, 2011**



Levi (Matthew) and all the tax collectors didn't get much love!

**1. Jesus doesn't grumble or grouse; He connects with us.**

Mark 2:13-14

Fishermen could easily go back to fishing,

but for Levi there would be little possibility of getting back his old job.

You're not going to connect with everybody.

But, you've got to connect with somebody!

**2. Jesus often provokes His followers and annoys those who don't.**

Mark 2:15-16

Jesus is poking and prodding my inappropriate-nerve.

**The fatal flaw of Pharisees: if you want God to love you, become like us first!**

Isolation and separation and uncaring disapproval dead-end the Gospel.

**3. The Good News of Jesus is not that He saves sinners; The Good News of Jesus is that He loves and rescues us as sinners.**

Mark 2:17

• Where are we going with the good news?

• Who are we having dinner with?

**Growth Group Questions**  
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1. We talked about how tax-collectors and meter-guys are often misunderstood. Now let's emphasize a little: How might people sometimes misunderstand your role as a mom, dad, employer, employee, student, younger person, older person, etc?
  
2. In our study of this passage on Sunday we said: "The Good News of Jesus is not that He saves sinners; The Good News of Jesus is that He loves and rescues us **as** sinners." Dig into Romans 5:6-10 and Colossians 2:13.
  - a. List the four or five words and phrases describing us at the moment Jesus died for us:
  
  - b. We might be tempted to "say" we agree with these unflattering descriptions of us. But why are we reluctant to really believe they are true?
  
  - c. How do these unfavorable depictions of us make us think about ourselves, our salvation, and God's love for us?
  
  - d. How can they affect the way we share the Good News with those who don't seem very "churchy?"
  
3. Followers of Jesus follow Jesus. Jesus was accused of hanging out with "sinners."
  - a. How about you?
  
  - b. How do we Christians sometimes act like the Pharisees (Mark 2:16-17) and dead-end the Good News (question 3) to "sinners?" How do we neither uncaringly isolate and secure ourselves away from sinners nor recklessly risk assimilating ourselves with sinners, but rather find the point of life-giving tension between the two? (Following Jesus, what sustained Him? Mark 1:35; He had fellowship with His disciples, and deep knowledge of the scriptures.)
  
  - c. When and where do your feelings of something being inappropriate in the church hinder or obstruct others from the gospel? Is there a legitimate place for propriety?

See you Saturday, 5pm for pizza dinner and 6pm for our **Bible Conference Part I**. (Please RSVP to [staff@paseodelrey.org](mailto:staff@paseodelrey.org) or 619.421.7733 so we'll have a count for food and child care, nursery to grade 6.