

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

Mark 2:14-17 – Evangelism with Notorious People

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read Mark 2:14-17

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

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.

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.

16 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?”

17 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.”

1. How is Levi identified in v. 14?
2. What is Jesus call to Levi? What would this entail?
3. How would Jesus calling a tax collector to follow him be viewed as scandalous in that day?

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4. What would it say to the world about Jesus that he had a tax collector following him?
5. What does it say to those who see themselves as sinful/cast outs/beyond hope?
6. What was Levi's response to that call?

❖ Day 2

Read Mark 2:14-17 again.

7. What does Jesus do to shore up his reputation after calling a tax collector to follow him?
8. Whose house is "his" referring to in v. 15?
9. What was the cultural significance of eating a meal with someone during this time?
10. What is the specified association mentioned at the end of v. 15 between these tax collectors and sinners and Jesus?
11. What did the Pharisees see that caused them indignation in v. 16?
12. Would the Pharisees have ever eaten with tax collectors and sinners? Why not?

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13. How does Jesus respond to the Pharisees complaint? What is the illustration Jesus uses in v. 17?

14. How does Jesus connect the illustration to his point in v. 17?

15. What is Jesus' point in v. 17?

❖ Day 3

Read Mark 2:14-17 again.

16. How does Jesus calling Levi impact your approach to evangelism?

17. Who was Jesus willing to spend time with, call to himself, and associate with? How does this impact how you think about those kinds of people in your life?

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18. How are you regularly tempted to think like the Pharisees do in v. 16?

19. Who are “the sick” in your sphere? If this is who Jesus came to call, how should you adjust your life to spend more time with them?

20. How do the principles of this passage fit with passages like Jude 23, 1 Cor 5:9-13, Eph 5:6-12, 2 Cor 6:14-7:1, etc.?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that God would use the preaching of his Word to encourage us to call sinners to repentance.