

MATTHEW'S CONVERSION (Part 2)

Matthew 9:9-17

MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. THE NATURE OF THE LIFE JESUS CALLS US INTO
2. THE HALLMARKS OF THE LIFE JESUS CALLS US INTO
3. THE POWER FOR LIVING THE LIFE JESUS CALLS US INTO

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick two or three of these to talk about as a group

1. Since this is the first week of the semester, let's take a minute to establish our group expectations so we can all be on the same page right from the beginning.
 - 1) What does success look like for our group?
 - 2) What do you expect from this group?
 - 3) What can you contribute to this group?
2. What was most helpful for you from this week's message? Why?
3. By feasting with tax collectors and sinners, Jesus didn't fit into the pre-conceived categories of the pharisees or John the Baptist's followers. What are some other examples of Jesus not fitting into our man-made categories? Where have you experienced this category-breaking nature of Jesus in your own life?
4. One of the hallmarks that you are being transformed by Jesus is that you will love across boundaries (i.e. political, racial, blue collar vs white collar, income level, etc.). What are some factors that make this sort of love so difficult for us? Do you have any examples of "loving across boundaries" from your own life?
5. Pastor Ryan talked about the significance of Jesus calling Himself the "bridegroom" in Matthew 9:15. Where else does this idea of Jesus as the bridegroom show up in the Bible? Why does this idea matter?
6. This week was all about the kind of life Jesus calls us into. In your own words, how would you describe the life Jesus calls people into? What are its greatest challenges? What are its greatest joys?

A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU: The gospel is the news that Jesus stepped across the dividing line between God and man to lay His life down for us so we could have a relationship with Him. The more we understand this, the more we will become people of love and joy.