

30 A.D.

THE JESUS STORY

Hanging Out With Those Who Need God

Luke 5:27-32

TAKING PROACTIVE MEASURES TO RECONNECT

▶ PRINCIPLE #1: You can't have impact without contact.

LEVI'S CALL (vv.27-28)

▶ PRINCIPLE #2: Focus on the future potential
& not on the past.

▶ PRINCIPLE #3: People know when you really care
about them. (1 Peter 4:8)

▶ PRINCIPLE #4: You would be surprised at all the people who would
respond to God if you simply built a bridge of true
concern into their lives.

LEVI'S PARTY (v.29)

▶ Possible Attitudes Toward the Lost

- ① Despise & avoid them
- ② View them with indifference
- ③ Receive them when they draw near
- ④ Actively seek them (Luke 19:10)

OBJECTION & RESPONSE (vv.30-32)

▶ PRINCIPLE #5: You can't solve a problem until
you recognize you have one!

Jesus Christ's Mission:

*"The Son of Man came to seek and
to save what was lost."* (Luke 19:10)

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Sermons can be viewed online at creeksideeg.com/sermon

Questions are based on the NIV translation of the Bible

PRAYER

Begin your time together asking the Lord to give you a heart like His for the lost. Pray that God would guide your discussion.

MY STORY

1. Describe a time when you were chosen for something that surprised you?

DIGGING DEEPER

2. What insight, principle or point from Sunday's message caught your attention? Explain.
3. **Read Luke 5:27-32.** When Jesus called Levi (Matthew), He simply said "Follow Me." For a moment put yourself in Levi's shoes. If Jesus asked you to follow Him, what would be going through your mind? In your estimation, what would "following Him" entail? Do you think it would be hard? Explain.
4. Explain the following principle from Sunday's message, "There is no impact without contact." Why does a Christian's contact with non-Christians often decrease over time when a person comes to Christ? If this reflects your relationships, what can you do today to start building healthy relationships with non-Christians? If you currently have healthy relationships with non-Christians, how have your "faith conversations" gone?
5. How did Jesus' calling of Levi (Matthew) illustrate the principle shared in Sunday's message that Jesus focuses on our future potential rather than our past sin? When you talk with people about Christ, what difficulty do you have separating the sinner from their sin?

6. How did Matthew utilize his home for advancing God's kingdom? What would be some equivalent uses of a home today?
7. How does showing love and true concern for others break down barriers for sharing the good news of Christ? What are practical ways that Christians today can show this kind of love and genuine concern for people in their neighborhoods, places of employment and other spheres of influence?
8. Explain in your own words what Jesus was saying in verses 31 and 32. Do you think the Pharisees and teachers of the law understood what He was saying? **Read Romans 3:23.** How does it apply here?

DIGGING EVEN DEEPER

9. How can living out the following verses open doors for sharing Christ?
1 Peter 4:8

John 13:34,35

Romans 12:10

Luke 6:31

TAKING IT HOME

10. Which of the four attitudes toward lost people mentioned in the message has been the predominant one in your life in recent days? What would you like your attitude to be, and is there anything you need to do to begin moving it in that direction?
 - a. Despise and avoid them
 - b. View them with indifference
 - c. Receive them when they draw near
 - d. Actively seek them

PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for the needs of your group, and ask God to help you reach out with love and concern for someone in your sphere of influence.