

Strong Tower Bible Study

Agenda

Lesson: Fall in Love with Jesus

Time 6:00pm -7:30pm

Topic: Matthew the man who left All to follow Jesus

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Scripture text:

Matthew 9:9-13 The Calling of Matthew

⁹As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

¹⁰While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

¹²On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. ¹³But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Luke 5:27-32 Jesus Calls Levi and Eats with Sinners

²⁷After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. "Follow me," Jesus said to him, ²⁸and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.

²⁹Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. ³⁰But the Pharisees and the

teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”

³¹ Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. ³² I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

New Vocabulary:

Publican-Is from the Latin word “**publicannus**” meaning the collector of Roman taxes. This was a task given to minor officials

Conversazione-An Italian word used to describe a scholarly social gathering to discuss literature. Also known as **Conversation** in the English language.

Things to know:

- Matthew-Gift of Jehovah
- The son of Alphaeus
- Matthew was a tax collector
- The name Matthew originates from the Hebrew
- Being a tax collector was recognized as a despised occupation and associated with sinners.
- Matthew was also known as Levi
- To celebrate his surrender to Christ, Matthew entertained Christ and others with a feast at his own house. Matthew 9:10; Luke 5:29
- Matthew became an apostle
- Matthew had a love of truth and was sensible to the mercy of God
- Matthew uses the word Kingdom over 50 times

- The book of Matthew can be divided in these three ways:
 1. The early days of the Messiah-Matthew chapter 1 through chapter 4:16
 2. The signs and works of the Messiah-Matthew 4:17 through chapter 16:20
 3. The passion of the Messiah- Matthew 16:21 through chapter 28:20

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you believe drew Matthew to follow Jesus?
2. How did Matthew respond to “peer pressure”?
3. What was Matthew’s response to Jesus?
4. How does Matthew’s life bear witness to his relationship with Jesus?
5. What can we learn from Matthew?
6. Is your witness Jubilant or flat? How do you know?

Faith in Action:

- Pay your tithes
- Set an alarm on your phone to pray at a set time and protect that time.
- Share your favorite Gospel song with someone
- Support a local mission (food drive, volunteer,)
- Offer to pray with an unhoused person on the street (allow the Holy Spirit to lead you)
- Reach out to a loved one and invite them to Worship with you.

-Spend 15 minutes in silence twice a day and listen for God.

Challenge of the Week: Trust God to lead you with making an important decision this week. Let go of what you want your outcome to be.

Scripture Application:

Deuteronomy 5:33-Why should we do this? How can we do this?

Psalms 119:133- What does this take on our part? How willing are you?

Deuteronomy 13:4- Is this an option?

Matthew 10:38-What Cross?

Galatians 5:25-How do we keep in step with the Spirit? When do we keep in step?

Closing Prayer: