

Message from God's Life-Giving Word
June 21, 2019
Standout – Unconditional Love/Acceptance

Let your light shine before others, so they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in Heaven. Matthew 5:16

What does it mean to Stand Out?

Do you believe in unconditional love and acceptance?

How did Jesus relate to people (ref. Matthew 9)?

What is the core of our struggle? _____

Culture vs. Christianity:

- Total agreement is not a prerequisite for _____.

Next Steps

1. Journal the following: Have you ever been in a situation when you were with someone you did not want others to know about, even for innocent reasons like planning a surprise party for someone else or going for a job interview while working for another employer? Describe how it felt, both emotionally and physically.
2. Read Matthew 9:9. Whom did Jesus address and where did He find him? Does it seem Jesus was worried about being seen with Matthew? Why or why not? Now read Matthew 9:10. Where do we see Jesus next? What does this say about Jesus' character?
3. You may have noticed that the author of this book is Matthew, the tax collector himself. Why do you suppose Matthew included these events? If you were in his place, would you have shared your own story? Why or why not? Pray to be more conscious of those around you who may need the affirmation of your attention.
REMEMBER: *Your time in daily devotion and prayer is not just for your benefit. It's also for the benefit of others. Share what God is teaching you.*