

## STUDY QUESTIONS CONT'D

5. Matthew threw a big party and made Jesus the guest of honor to introduce his friends to the one who changed his life. How can you introduce Him to your friends that don't know Him?
6. How can you be a Matthew this week?

## WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

The word "gospel" means "good news." The Gospel, or good news, of Jesus Christ is that He did what no one could ever do. You see, God loves us, but ever since Adam and Eve sinned against God, every human being has sinned and therefore cannot come into God's presence because He is holy and perfect. As much as we try, we cannot bridge the gap to God because of our sinful nature. We can never be good enough to reach God. Good works, religion, philosophy and morality all fall short of God's perfection.

God loves us so much that He sent His Own Son, Jesus Christ, to bridge the gap (John 3:16). Jesus did what no one else could ever do, because He is both God and human, born to Mary. He took upon Himself the punishment we deserve, dying on the cross in our place. Now, through a relationship with Jesus Christ, we can come before a holy God. That is the good news! We enter a relationship with Jesus by placing our faith and trust in Him and Him alone for our salvation. Do you have a relationship with Jesus Christ?

The good news doesn't end there. Not only can we have eternal life through Jesus, but we also now can live without being condemned because of sin. Jesus paid the price for our sins, and He lives within those who have placed their trust in Him. In Christ, not only have we secured our future in eternity with God, but we have the Holy Spirit living in us to help us today to live for Christ. For more information on how to know God, check our website at [www.gbcmilescity.com](http://www.gbcmilescity.com).



Grace Bible Church  
3505 Stower St.  
Miles City, MT 59301  
406-232-5787  
[www.gbcmilescity.com](http://www.gbcmilescity.com)

Small Group Study Guide  
Pastor Phil Newby – March 4th, 2018

## SERMON NOTES

### THE TWELVE MATTHEW The Tax Collector

#### TAX COLLECTORS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- Tax collectors were on the same level \_\_\_\_\_ as pagans, prostitutes, gluttons, drunkards, robbers, evildoers, and adulterers (Matthew 18:17, Matthew 21:31-32, Luke 7:34, Luke 18:11)
- A Jewish tax collector was also considered a \_\_\_\_\_ to Israel, hated worse than the Roman soldiers.
- Jewish tax collectors were religious \_\_\_\_\_, forbidden to enter any synagogue or the temple. (Luke 18:9-14)
- Tax collectors, with Rome's permission, collected more than was required for their own \_\_\_\_\_. (Luke 3:13)
- There were two kinds:  
Chief tax collector - \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 19:2)  
Those doing the collecting - \_\_\_\_\_

#### JESUS CALLS MATTHEW

Matthew 9:9, Mark 2:13-14, Luke 5:27-28

- The Gospels of Mark and Luke use Matthew's other name, which was \_\_\_\_\_. Mark identifies him as the son of Alphaeus. (Mark 2:14, Luke 5:27)

*Continued Next Page*

## SERMON NOTES

- Matthew dropped everything and followed Jesus after Jesus said two words, “ \_\_\_\_\_ .”
- Deep down Matthew must have known he was heading in the wrong \_\_\_\_\_ and needed the forgiveness of the Lord.

### SINNER’S DINNER

Matthew 9:10-11, Mark 2:15-16, Luke 5:29-30

- Matthew was so excited that he wanted to share his faith in Jesus with those he knew needed \_\_\_\_\_ too!
- The Pharisees and teachers of the law did not think they \_\_\_\_\_ God’s forgiveness and that these people did not deserve it.

### JESUS SAID...

Matthew 9:12-13, Mark 2:17, Luke 5:31-32

- The analogy is simple. Just as a physician is expected to go among people who are sick, a \_\_\_\_\_ should be expected to go among those who are sinful.

### WHAT HAPPENED TO MATTHEW?

- The former \_\_\_\_\_ of the Jews wrote the Gospel that showed Jews that Jesus was the Messiah of the Old Testament!
- After ministering in Israel for many years, tradition says that he was \_\_\_\_\_ spreading the Gospel in Ethiopia.

## SERMON NOTES

### TAKING IT IN

- No matter what you’ve done, Jesus is saying to you today what He said to Matthew: \_\_\_\_\_!
- If you don’t think you need forgiveness, \_\_\_\_\_, and if you don’t think others deserve it, \_\_\_\_\_ either. No one deserves it!
- Being a Matthew is realizing we are all outcasts, we all need Jesus as Forgiver and Savior, Jesus is calling us to follow Him, and when we do God uses us to \_\_\_\_\_ the world!

## STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Why were tax collectors so hated by the Jewish people?
2. What kind of problems do you see among the twelve disciples with Matthew in the group?
3. What direction is your life headed? Do you need to recalculate your GPS?
4. It is easy to start thinking that we have arrived, and we **don’t** need forgiveness. How are we like the Pharisees?
5. As Christians we are forgiven. What do we do about the sin that we commit as believers? (See 1 John 1:9)

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE