



Lunch at Levi's

Lesson 2 • Luke 5:27-39

What have you already learned about dining with Jesus?

What Is the Big Idea of the Lunch at Levi's Home?

*Calling sinners to repent results in **FEASTING** with Jesus and **FAULTFINDING** from the self-righteous.*

1. Jesus **CALLS** a Sin Sick Lowlife to Repentance. 5:27-28

- Jesus' Call: **FOLLOW ME!**
 1. Levi the tax collector **sits** at his toll booth.
 2. Jesus **sees** "Levi" not a lowlife! *Who he will become: "Matthew" = "Gift from God"!*
 3. Jesus **says** to Levi: "Follow Me!"

How do you see the lost all around you?

Remember they are sitting paralyzed in their sins and unable to move without the gospel!

What do you say to them? Do you cast a vision for what God can do in their life?

- Levi's Commitment: **FULLY DEVOTED!**
 1. His **faith is fully** in Jesus alone.
 2. He **forsakes fully** all his past rights.
 3. He **follows fully** into the future.

Here is Luke's portrait of a normal believer – a fully devoted Christ follower!

Are you living like a fully devoted Christ follower – perfectly but progressively?

2. Jesus **FEASTS** with the Sin Sick. 5:29

- **WHAT** is it?
- **WHO** is the Host?
- **WHO** is the Guest of Honor?
- **WHO** are the Invited Guests reclining at the table?
Tax Collectors and Others
- **WHO** are Standing Room Only?
Separated Ones and Their Legal Scholars
- **HOW** are the tables turned? *Kingdom reversals where outsiders are insiders and insiders are outsiders!*

➤ **WHY** are they feasting?

1. To **HONOR** Jesus as Sovereign Savior and Gracious Master.
2. To **REJOICE** in Levi's repentance and life change.
3. To **WITNESS** to the lost who are sin sick.
4. To **SHARE** generously with the nameless needy – *scattered like sheep without a Shepherd.*
How has your life changed or are you still stuck sitting in your besetting sin?
5. To **ENJOY** God's good gifts at a table set in His presence.
6. To **PICTURE** the Marriage Supper of Lamb in the coming Kingdom.

True believers are eager to share with others WHO Jesus is and HOW He has CHANGED their life as PROOF He can change their life!

3. Jesus **ANSWERS** the Self-Righteous Faultfinders. 5:30-39

Why Are You Socializing with Sinners? (vv. 30-32)

- Murmuring to the disciples about **WHO** they are dining with.
- Jesus graciously explains: *He is a **SAVING SURGEON** for sin-sick hearts.*

Why Are You Feasting Instead of Fasting? (vv. 33-39)

- Murmuring to Jesus about **WHY** His disciples are feasting instead of fasting.
- Jesus shrewdly warns: *The King is **PRESENT** to **PROVIDE** New Covenant blessings by His Spirit!*

Can't Mix and Match the Sadness of Absence with the Gladness of the King's Presence.

The Bridegroom's presence calls for feasting not fasting!

Can't Contain the King's New Ways Within Your Old Ways.

The New Wine of the Spirit's power will fulfill the Law and burst out of legalism!

Don't Settle for the Old Wine When the New Wine is Offered.

Easy to settle for our sinful ways and miss out on Jesus' way to be saved and enjoy satisfied!

"Life is a feast, not a famine or a funeral, and Jesus Christ is the only One who can make that kind of a difference in our lives." – Warren Wiersbe

Dining with Jesus Means Feasting with Sinners!

- Are you a sinner in need of salvation or self-righteously ignoring your sinful need?
- Are you a Christ follower who needs to feast with sinners?
 - Throw a Levi party this Spring for the unsaved or the lost in your circle of influence or neighborhood.
 - Welcome our community at the Easter Eggstravanza by serving *but also* sharing grace with those who come.
 - Invite a member who may be an "outsider" into your home or *simply get up and talk to someone you usually don't!*
 - Come and pray tonight as we lament and repent where we fall short in befriending sinners and fulfilling Jesus' mission.

"A converted man will not wish to go to heaven alone." – J. C. Ryle