

## THE LIFE OF CHRIST: JESUS CALLS LEVI

### MARK 2:13-14

Christians are called to treat people differently than everyone else.

- When others won't...we forgive
- When others walk away...we come close
- When others make fun...we befriend
- When others want nothing to do with someone...we invest in them
- When others give up...we endure

### A DOCTOR THROWING A PARTY?

- **Why a DOCTOR?** Because he healed people...physically and spiritually
- **Why a PARTY?** Because Jesus vision of the kingdom of God was a great feast to which everyone was invited.

### MARK 2:15-17

- Mark is showing us Jesus' ministry brought opposition at every level...socially, culturally, politically, and above all else religiously.
- Jesus' whole ministry was to bring health, not just to the physically sick, but to Israel and the whole world.

### MATTHEW 2:18-22 – THREE IMAGES

#### 1. NEW WINE IN OLD BOTTLES

- What Jesus is doing cannot be contained in the existing ways of thinking and living.

#### 2. MENDING CLOTHES

- New and old do not mix.

#### 3. A WEDDING

- As long as Jesus is here there should be celebration.

### PUT IT ALL TOGETHER...

#### 1. JESUS IS CREATING A NEW PLAYING FIELD.

- You cannot win people you are not willing to eat with.
- We **MUST** guard against the attitude of the Pharisees.

#### 2. JOY MUST DEFINE US.

- One of the schemes of the devil is to take away our joy.
- God wants to do a new work in us, what we have to do is bring him new containers he can use for his glory.