



The Gospel of Mark #7: "Pursuit"

"The greatest enemy of the human soul is the self-righteous spirit which makes men look to themselves for salvation"
~Charles H. Spurgeon~

Jesus's Call:

#1 Jesus Calls Sinners To FOLLOW Him

He went out again beside the sea, and all the crowd was coming to him, and he was teaching them. ¹⁴ And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him. Mark 2: 13-14

"To Him, all sin is equally evil, and all sinners are equally lovable."
~Judah Smith~

#2 Jesus Calls Sinners To FELLOWSHIP With Him

And as he reclined at table in his house, many tax collectors and sinners were reclining with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" Mark 2: 15-16

"With Jesus there is no us and them – there is just us."
~Greg Boyle~

#3 Jesus Calls Sinners To REPENTANCE

And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners." Mark 2:17

Jesus is Saying:

- "Only Those Who KNOW That They Are Sick Come To Me."
- "I Came For Those Who Recognize Their NEED For Me."

"Be like Jesus; spend enough time with sinners to ruin your reputation with religious people"
~ Joshua Harris "Humble Orthodoxy"~



Life Groups

We believe that spiritual growth happens best in circles . Life groups provide a safe and encouraging environment to experience authentic Christian community, to love one another, to grow in faith and discover the life-giving truth of God's Word.

For more information on Life Groups contact Pastor Joshua@waipunachapel.com

Using the S.O.A.P Bible Study Method:

(S= Scripture O=Observations A=Application P= Prayer)

- This week spend 20 minutes a day reading Scripture
- Then spend 20 minutes journaling your Observations, Applications and Prayers. (If 40 minutes is overwhelming start with 20 or even 10 minutes "Start Small But Start Now")
- At Life Group take turns sharing the observations and applications that you have gleaned from this week's Bible reading.

Discussion From This Weeks Message

Read Mark 2:13-17.

- Consider the question "Have you ever wondered if you are good enough for God?" Discuss your answers with the group.
- How much does performance influence your relationship with people and with God? Discuss.
- Does it surprise you that Jesus would call a man like Levi to follow him? Why? Why not?
- Levi's "tax booth" represents Levi's sin. What was the significance of Levi leaving his tax booth to follow Jesus?

What does this tell us about sin?

- Does the idea of Jesus fellowshiping with sinners surprise or offend you? Why? Why not?
- In your journey with Jesus, have you found that you have separated yourself from associating with people who are not Christians? Explain.
- Consider the quote by C.H Spurgeon "*The greatest enemy of the human soul is the self-righteous spirit which makes men look to themselves for salvation*".
Why do you think self-righteousness is so dangerous? How can we guard against it?
- Repentance from sin is the ongoing posture of the Christian life. What "tax booths" may still be present in your life that Jesus is calling you to leave?
- Pray for one another.

Sources:

Ray Fowler "Calling All Sinners" rayfowler.org

William Barclay "Daily Bible Study - The Gospel of Mark" WJK Publishing

Feedback or Questions? Contact Pastor Shaun@waipunachapel.com