



Guide

4/21 - Matthew 9:9-13 (Matthew the Tax Collector)

LOVE

A new commandment I give to you, that you love *one another*... (John 13:34)

- *Internal*: How was your week...anything new?! How was your walk with the Lord this week?
- *External*: Is there any individual or family who is struggling or needs encouragement from us?

TRUTH

Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing *one another*... (Col. 3:16)

1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?
2. Let's read our primary text. Matthew's occupation was a tax collector. What do we know about tax collector's at that time?
3. Jesus asked Matthew to follow Him. What were the implications of Matthew leaving his post at the tax booth and following Jesus? Do you think Matthew had ever contemplated leaving his current lifestyle behind?
4. Was there ever a point in your life where "you left your post" for Jesus, as Matthew did? What was that like?
5. Jesus responds to the Pharisees with a three-fold argument. Try to identify each of the arguments he presents.
6. Jesus points the Pharisees back to Hosea 6:6 - "*For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.*" Why did Jesus ask them to learn what this means?
7. Why is it important that we recognize our sin on a regular basis? What has God given us to help alert us to our wayward ways?
8. How would you use this text to share the gospel with someone who may have had a troubled past?
9. Any other thoughts you would like to share before we wrap up this text?

GREAT COMMISSION

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)

- Did you disciple your family well this week? Is it apparent to others that Jesus the reason for your hope in your daily activity?

CONFESSION/PRAYER/REPENTANCE

But exhort *one another* every day, as long as it is called "today,"... (Heb. 3:12-14)

- Confession is agreeing with God about our sin according to the Scriptures. Is there anything you want to confess before the group? [*apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger, envy*]
- Let's pray, asking God to help us apply His word to our lives, putting to death sinful desires.