Jesus The Friend of Sinners **MARK 2:13-17** 10-21-2018 Trav Neumann

5 stories- 2:1-12, v13-17; v18-22; v23-27; 3:1-6

**1st**- the scene is set; **2nd** - accusation is laid; **3rd** - Jesus resolves the issue by an authoritative statement.

**Point 1** **Jesus Calls the Unlikely and Undesirable to Follow Him MARK 2:13-15**

Jesus goes to dinner with Levi, sinners and tax collectors.

So the **scene is set**.

**Point 2.** **Jesus Calls the Spiritually Unhealthy to Fellowship with Him MARK 2:16-17**

Now the **accusation gets laid** against Jesus.

Now the **accusation gets laid** against Jesus:

'Why does He **eat** with tax collectors and "sinners"?' (v 16).

**Now,**  Jesus **resolves** the issue by an **authoritative statement.**

17 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.”

ROMANS 5:6-11

**6**For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

**7**For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—

**8but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners,** Christ died for us.

**9**Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

**10**For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

**11**More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Reflect and Discuss

1. What kinds of "sinners" are you reluctant to befriend? What kind of weakness or fear keeps you from showing the love of Jesus to-them?
2. In what ways do you identify with Levi, the outcast tax collector? What do you appreciate about God's grace? (reflect on Roman 5:8)
3. Do you know someone like Levi, who most people would think is not worthy of a call to follow Christ? Why might they in fact quickly and eagerly respond to an invitation?
4. Have you ever been offended when you saw a fellow Christian reaching out to a certain class of people?
5. Which people do you think Jesus would hang out with today?
6. What is commendable about the Pharisees' teaching and practice?
7. What aspects of the Pharisees' teaching and practice did Jesus condemn?
8. In what ways do some Christians act like Pharisees, whether the good aspects or the bad? Have you ever found yourself doing these things?
9. Do you know someone who does not realize he or she is spiritually terminally sick? What might you say that could convince them of their condition?
10. Negatively, the unsaved are spiritually terminally sick. Positively, the gospel offers salvation from sin and death. Which motivates you more for evangelism and missions?