

bleSS

TALK SHEET

KEY SCRIPTURE

⁹As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him.

¹⁰Later, Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. ¹¹But when the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with such scum?"

¹²When Jesus heard this, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do." ¹³Then he added, "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: 'I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.' For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."

Matthew 9:9-13 (NLT)

QUOTE

"Sharing meals together on a regular basis is one of the most sacred practices we can engage in as believers. Missional hospitality is a tremendous opportunity to extend the kingdom of God. We can literally eat our way into the kingdom of God! If every Christian household regularly invited a stranger or a poor person into their home for a meal once a week, we would literally change the world by eating!"

Hirsch and Ford

BLESS

Begin with Prayer

Listen

Eat

Serve

Share

Select 1 or 2 questions from each section of this guide to lead your group or house church in a discussion. Feel free to adjust as needed. Each section is designed to follow each video segment of the message.

- **Video Section #1: Explore the Topic**
 - > Start it Out | Goal: Get people talking
- **Video Section #2: Explore what God says about the Topic**
 - > Talk it Out | Goal: Get the group talking about scripture
- **Video Section #3: Explore what we do with the Topic**
 - > Live it Out | Goal: Choose a question to encourage next steps
 - > Pray it Out | Goal: Lift of prayers, petitions, and praises

Start it Out | Goal: Get people talking

- Review **BLESS** then ask, "where you able to BLESS someone this week, if so, how did it go?"
- Have you ever had an important spiritual conversation while sharing a meal? If so, what was that experience like?
- Have the group give their opinion on the **QUOTE** by Hirsch and Ford.

Talk it Out | Goal: Get the group talking about scripture

- Read, 1 Timothy 2:1-4, then ask; what is the significance for you that Jesus called a sinful tax collector to be one of his disciples?
- Pastor Steve pointed out that there are 3 main characters in the story: **Jesus** = Rescuer, **Matthew** = Redeemed, **Pharisees** = Ridiculous. Being honest, who do you most identify with and why?

Live it Out | Goal: Explore next steps regarding the topic

- What are some creative ways you've found to share meals with others during the pandemic?
- Who is God calling you to BLESS by sharing a meal this week? What is your initial plan to follow up with the person God is calling you to BLESS?

Pray it Out | Goal: Lift up prayers, petitions, and praises

- How can we pray for you this week?
Take notes and follow up next week.