

FRIEND OF SINNERS
MARK 2:13-17 (ESV)

MARK 2:13-14 (ESV)

13 He (Jesus) 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.

Luke 5:37 "a tax collector named Levi"

THE CONVERSION OF LEVI

MARK 2:14-17 (ESV)

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.

Luke 5:28 "leaving everything, he rose and followed him"

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CALL OF LEVI:

1. **RECOGNITION:** LEVI RECOGNIZES HIS NEED FOR A SAVIOR
 2. **RELATIONSHIP:** JESUS PURSUES LEVI WITH LOVE AND GRACE
 3. **REPENTANCE:** LEVI RESPONDS – HE LEAVES BEHIND HIS LIFE OF SIN AND FOLLOWS JESUS
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15 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.

THE CRITICISM OF THE SELF-RIGHTEOUS

16 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?"

CHARACTERISTICS OF PHARISEES AND SCRIBES:

1. **ISOLATION** FROM SINNERS AND THEIR ACTIVITIES
2. STRICT **RULE FOLLOWING**
3. **EXTERNAL** PERFECTIONISM



THE COMMISSION FOR ALL BELIEVERS

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."

- 1. INTERCEDE - pray
- 2. INVEST - serve
- 3. INVITE - bring

ACTS 26: 17

I am sending you to them 18 to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

HOMEWORK:

Write down 3-5 names of individuals or families that you can love this week by interceding, investing, and inviting:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
