

MATTHEW 9:9-13

⁹Now a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him. ¹⁰And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹²But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

SECTION ONE: CONNECTION

TALK - Have everyone introduce themselves & welcome any new participants.

Read the Group Guidelines out loud, that are listed below.

- What are you thankful for?
- What is causing you stress?
- Do you need our help? How can we help?

Look Back - Start doing this the 2nd week of your group gathering and continue to do so for remaining group sessions

Have someone retell the bible story from the previous meeting.

- What did you do differently because of this story?
- Who did you tell and what was the reaction? Let's celebrate these things!

SECTION TWO: DISCOVERY

READ & RETELL - Have one person read the new Bible passage out loud, and the rest follow along. Then have someone else retell the story and then encourage others to fill in what is missing.

READ & LOOK - Read the passage again.

- What does this passage say about God, Jesus or his plan?

READ & LOOK AGAIN - Read the passage once more.

- What does this passage say about humans?

SECTION THREE: APPLICATION

INSIDE ME

- According to this study, what are you doing well? What do you need to change?

WHO ELSE?

- Which two people in your life should you share this with?