

“Jesus Friend of Sinners!”

Luke 5:27-32; Luke 19:1-10

Pastor Dan

“The greatest encouragement throughout the Bible is God's love for His lost race and the willingness of Christ, the eternal Son, to show forth that love in God's plan of redemption. The love of Jesus is so inclusive that it knows no boundaries. At the point where we stop caring and loving, Jesus is still there loving and caring.” A.W. Tozer

1.) Jesus calls a sinner to follow Him! Luke 5:27-28

- A. Jesus saw Levi right where he was.
 - a. He was sitting and working as a tax collector!
 - b. They were known for being cheats and liars and they were hated by the Jewish people!
 - i. They were often Jews who were working for the Roman Empire and would steal from their own people.
- B. Jesus called to him and he left his old life behind immediately!
 - a. Following Jesus would cost him everything that he had, and with his past, no one would trust him!
 - i. Even through it all there was something about Jesus that seemed worth leaving everything for!

2.) This tax collector held a big banquet for Jesus and brought other sinners to him! Luke 5:29

- A. He couldn't contain holding back his encounter with Jesus.
- B. Even though he was giving up everything for the sake of following Christ he was willing to give up more so that others can come to know this Jesus!

3.) Jesus' intentions were questioned! Luke 5:30-32

- A. The religious leaders couldn't understand why Jesus would get down on other levels that were below Him.
 - a. While others saw sinners Jesus saw redemption!
 - b. No one was or is beneath Jesus loving and redeeming!
- B. Jesus states that His very purpose was to come for the sinners and those who are lost!

4.) Zacchaeus was the chief of the tax collectors and was drawn by the redemptive power of Christ. Luke 19:1-6)

- A. It wasn't by accident that his position and title were mentioned!
- B. He recognized that while he had wealth there was something missing in His life!
- C. Jesus knew exactly where he was and knew him by name. He told Zacheus that he must come to his house!
 - a. Upon Jesus calling to him Zacchaeus came down and embraced Jesus immediately.

5.) There were those who judged Jesus and Zacchaeus, but Zacchaeus was obedient to the call of Christ! Luke 19:7-10)

- A. People were disgusted that Jesus would go and be a guest of sinners, yet that was His purpose!
- B. While others mocked Christ, this sinner embraced Him!
- C. Zacchaeus recognized his condition and repented and wanted to make that which he had done wrong right!
- D. Salvation had come to Zacchaeus' house because of his repent and trusting heart in the God who redeems!
- E. This sinner was put in the same category of Abraham because of his faith.
- F. Jesus purpose was to seek and save the lost, of which I am one!

Closing Questions!

- 1.) Do you and I have the same mission as Christ to seek and save the lost?
- 2.) Are there people that we pre-judge?
- 3.) Has salvation come to your house?
- 4.) Are you willing to look foolish for Christ?