**Jesus Came To Call Sinners**

Matthew 9:1-17

Key Verse: 9:13 “But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

1. When the paralytic was brought to Jesus, why did Jesus first say, “Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven,” rather than just healing him? (1-2)

2. Why did some teachers of the law think that Jesus was blaspheming? (3) How did Jesus demonstrate his authority to forgive sins? (4-6) What effect would the forgiveness of his sins have on the paralytic? (7-8)

3. How were tax collectors regarded in Jesus’ day? What do Jesus’ words, “Follow me” mean to Matthew? (9)

4. Why did Jesus eat with tax collectors and “sinners”? (10-11) What did Jesus mean by quoting Hosea 6:6, “I desire mercy, not sacrifice”? (12-13)

5. Why did John's disciples question Jesus’ disciples’ lack of fasting? (14) What does Jesus’ answer tell us about his relationship with his disciples? (15) How does the illustration of new wineskins teach about the nature of Christian life? (16-17)

6. What can we learn in this passage about how Jesus redeems sinners and makes them new?