



# Sermon Discussion Guide

September 21, 2025

*Use this discussion guide with your small group or by yourself, to dig into the text and theme of Sunday's message.*

**Key Point: All people are made in the image of God and have value.**

**Life Sharing: (answer one)**

1. If you haven't reviewed the Small Group Covenant / Agreement, take time to do that before starting the discussion.
2. If you had to visit a health profession tomorrow, which one would you want to see: doctor, dentist, chiropractor, or therapist.

**Transition / Open in prayer**

3. What are some ways people have labeled you in your life? Have those labels been good or bad for your understanding of yourself?

**Life Examination:**

*READ Matthew 9:1-13*

4. How are the paralyzed man and Matthew, a tax collector, similar according to Jewish culture? What are some of the labels in Jewish culture that show up in these stories?
5. How would you answer Jesus' question in verse 5?
6. Why do you think Matthew responded to Jesus' invitation to follow him? What did Jesus' invitation mean to Matthew?
7. What are the types of people Jesus talks about in verses 12-13? Who are the people in Jesus' day that fit under those labels?

*READ 1 John 1:5-10*

8. What does light symbolize in this passage?
9. Why is confessing our sins important?

**Life Application:**

10. Who helped you respond to Jesus' invitation to follow him?
11. What is needed for someone to realize they are spiritually sick?
12. What can we learn from Jesus' example as we reach out to all people?
13. How can a person tell if they are walking in light or walking in darkness?

**Life Prayers:** Pray for one another and ask God to move your heart toward those who are spiritually sick.

**[NOTE: if your group is using the Reach online study take time to check in about what was covered in that study. You can learn more about it here: [www.reachothers.org](http://www.reachothers.org)]**