



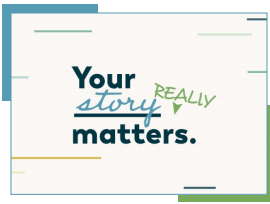
Your story matters.



The *Tax* Man.

Pastor Tom Lundeen
January 3rd, 2021

MYRC.CHURCH



"The Tax Man"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

What did Jesus have to _____ to ordinary people like you and me?

What did He _____ in people's lives?

Jesus' connection with _____ shows us that:

1. No one is _____ to Jesus

Tax collectors were especially _____ in ancient Israel in Jesus' day.

They were considered the ultimate _____ for they were involved in scandals and in the oppression of their own people.

Despite these realities, Jesus didn't _____ or condemn.

Note Luke 5:27

Jesus is not put off by our past, our _____, our actions and activities.

2. Jesus _____ Lives

Living apart from God's principles is never _____ satisfying.

At best, sin only provides the temporary _____ of happiness.

Note Luke 5:28

His actions demonstrated the genuine _____ of his commitment.

To follow Jesus would _____ Levi enormously.

But his commitment to Jesus wasn't _____ (note [Luke 5:29](#)).

A _____ man will not wish to go to heaven alone (Ryle).

Note [Luke 5:30](#)

3. _____ Needs Jesus Christ (note [Luke 5:30](#) and [18:9](#))

- In response to the _____ question the religious leaders asked Jesus' disciples (note [Luke 5:30](#)), Jesus proclaimed a profound truth (note [Luke 5:31-32](#)).
- Jesus wasn't implying that the religious leaders were *the* _____...but that a person must recognize himself as spiritually _____ (i.e., a sinner) before they can be spiritually healed.
- We are all spiritually sick and have all _____ for sin.

Your story really does matter to Jesus:

- Jesus' _____ connection with Levi tells us beyond the shadow of doubt that none of us are off-limits to Jesus.
- And today, Jesus is ready to meet you, too.
- [Luke 5:27b, NLT](#) — “Follow me and be my _____,” Jesus said to him.

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital or in person).



SMALL GROUP
guide on the back



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Icebreaker: What's the longest you've ever intentionally gone without some form of technology, and why?

1. What's your perception of how interested Jesus is in your normal, everyday life? Why do you think you feel that way?
2. Jesus demonstrated his care for people in his interaction with Levi. ([Luke 5:27](#)) Who could you identify as a "Levi" in your life, and how does your interaction with them mirror Jesus'?
3. If Levi's life was so fantastic, would he have followed Jesus? ([Luke 5:28-29](#)) What are some things that you need to leave behind to follow Jesus completely, and what would your life look like if you allowed Jesus to change you?
4. How do you see yourself in the role of the religious leaders? ([Luke 5:29-30](#))
5. Since "we are all spiritually sick and have all tested positive for sin", how will we embrace Jesus' care for ourselves and others who are in the same situation? ([Luke 5:31-32](#))

Day One: [Mark 3](#)

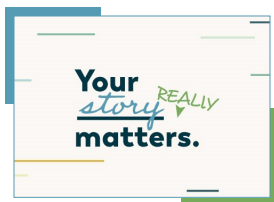
Day Two: [Mark 4](#)

Day Three: [Mark 5](#)

Day Four: [Mark 6](#)

Day Five: [Mark 7](#)

PERSONAL GUIDE



"The Tax Man"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

What did Jesus have to say to ordinary people like you and me?

What did He do in people's lives?

Jesus' connection with Levi shows us that:

1. No one is Off-Limits to Jesus

Tax collectors were especially hated in ancient Israel in Jesus' day.

They were considered the ultimate sinners for they were involved in scandals and in the oppression of their own people.

Despite these realities, Jesus didn't shun or condemn.

Note Luke 5:27

Jesus is not put off by our past, our reputation, our actions and activities.

2. Jesus Changes Lives

Living apart from God's principles is never permanently satisfying.

At best, sin only provides the temporary illusion of happiness.

Note Luke 5:28

His actions demonstrated the genuine quality of his commitment.

To follow Jesus would cost Levi enormously.

But his commitment to Jesus wasn't grim (note Luke 5:29).

A converted man will not wish to go to heaven alone (Ryle).

Note Luke 5:30

3. Everyone Needs Jesus Christ (note Luke 5:30 and 18:9)

- In response to the accusatory question the religious leaders asked Jesus' disciples (note Luke 5:30), Jesus proclaimed a profound truth (note Luke 5:31-32).
- Jesus wasn't implying that the religious leaders were *the healthy*...but that a person must recognize himself as spiritually sick (i.e., a sinner) before they can be spiritually healed.
- We are all spiritually sick and have all tested positive for sin.

Your story really does matter to Jesus:

- Jesus' intentional connection with Levi tells us beyond the shadow of doubt that none of us are off-limits to Jesus.
- And today, Jesus is ready to meet you, too.
- Luke 5:27b, NLT — “Follow me and be my disciple,” Jesus said to him.

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