

# Matthew 9:9 - 10:31

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## Day 1 Read Matthew 9:9-17

### **Calling Matthew**

1. How willingly did Matthew follow Jesus? 9:9 (What would this have meant for a tax collector?)

- What did Matthew do? 9:10 (See Luke 5:29)

**FYI:** "Tax collectors were considered traitors by the Jews. They were despised because they generally collected more than necessary and pocketed the difference vastly enriching themselves." - The Nelson Study Bible (1590)

"The immediate response by Matthew to Jesus' call... must have been preceded by...his own personal repentance and faith. He would very likely have been a follower of John the Baptist." - Henry Morris

2. Why were the Pharisees upset? 9:10,11

- Who does and doesn't need the Lord? 9:12 What do you think He meant by "the sick"?

3. What was wrong with the Pharisee's thoughts and actions? 9:13a

- How did Jesus explain His ministry? 9:13b (Cf. 18:11) Which category would the Pharisees have used to describe themselves?
- Who are the "sinners"? Ecclesiastes 7:20; Romans 3:10,23

**FYI:** "People sometimes find that their very goodness stands in the way of seeing that they too are sinful." - Africa Bible Commentary (1129)

Jesus' "mission was characterized by grace, a pursuit of the lost, of sinners. The verb *kalesai* ('to call') means "to invite'." - Expositor's Bible Commentary

### **Questions About Fasting**

4. About what issue did John's disciples question Jesus? 9:14

5. Why was it unnecessary for Jesus' disciples to fast? 9:15a

- When would that change? 9:15b

**FYI:** "In the OT the bridegroom metaphor was repeatedly applied to God (Isa 54:5-6; 62:4-5; Hos 2:16-20); and Jews sometimes used it... in connection with Messiah's coming ...Thus Jesus' answer was:...He Himself is the messianic bridegroom, and the Messianic Age has dawned." - The Expositor's Bible Commentary

6. In Jesus' illustrations, what happened when the old was mixed with the new?

	Example	Result
9:16		
9:17		

7. How radical was Jesus' message? 9:17b

- What "newness" did Jesus bring? Romans 7:6; 2 Corinthians 5:17

**Digging Deeper**  
 For descriptions of the change from the old to the new covenant see Galatians 3:23-26 and Hebrews 8.

**Applying the Word:** When is it difficult for you to express your need and complete dependence on the Lord? Why is it difficult?

## Day 2

Read Matthew 9:18-26

**Ruler's request**

8. How did the ruler approach Jesus and what amazing request did the man make? 9:18 How did Jesus respond? 9:19

**FYI:** "For a full-grown man and a leader to kneel before an unrecognized wandering preacher took humility, faith, courage and conviction." - Africa Bible Commentary (1129)

**Hemorrhaging Woman**

9. What happened on the way? 9: 19 (What additional information do you learn from Luke 8:42,43 about the crowds and the woman's condition?)

- How would the hemorrhaging woman's life have been affected by her condition? Leviticus 15:25-27 Why would she be hesitant to approach Jesus publically?

10. How and why was the woman healed? 9:21,22

- From Luke 8:45-47, what did Jesus have the woman do? Why do you think He did that?

**Girl Restored to Life**

11. Why did Jesus dismiss the flute players and noisy crowd? 9:23,24a

- Why did Jesus say that the girl was just "asleep"? See I Thessalonians 4:13,14 (See also Psalm 17:15)

12. How did the crowd respond? What were they denied? 9:24b,25

**FYI:** "These were probably paid mourners, who in the custom of the day offered an ostentatious display of mourning for a price, not out of sincere sorrow. When we notice how quickly they moved from **wailing to they ridiculed Him**, it shows their lack of sincerity."  
- David Guzik

13. How was the girl brought to life? 9:25 (See also Luke 8:54,55)

- What happened? 9:26 (Contrast Luke 8:56)

**Applying the Word:** *What picture do you have of Jesus and His ministry from the amazing requests and the determined ways in which people approached Him?*

## Day 3

Jesus Heals. Read Matthew 9:27 - 10:4

### Blind Men Healed

14. How did two blind men appeal to Jesus? 9:27 What is the significance of title they used?

- Why do you think Jesus questioned them? 9:28

15. What would Jesus' method of healing them have communicated? 9:28 How did Jesus commend them? 9:29

16. What command did Jesus give them, and how did they respond? 8:30,31

### Demon-possessed Man Healed

17. What was the condition of the demon-possessed man? 9:32 (How did he come to Jesus?)

18. What happened and how did the crowds respond? 9:33

- To whom did the rulers contribute this power? 9:34 What does this say about the enormity of this power? What does it say about their resistance to accepting Jesus?

**FYI:** "In the Jewish understanding of demon possession, this man could not be helped. This was because the rabbis thought that you could not cast out a demon until it told you its name, and a demon that made a man mute could never be made to tell you its name. But Jesus had no problem, **the demon was cast out** and **the mute spoke.**"  
- David Guzik

### Jesus' Ministry

19. What picture does 9:35 give you of the magnitude of Jesus' ministry? (See also Mark 6:54-56) What problems do you see in dealing with these crowds?

- How did Jesus respond to the crowds? Why? 9:36 (Cf. Moses' words in Numbers 27:16-17)

**IT'S GREEK TO ME:** *Compassion* Strong's NT:#4697 *splagchnizomai*; to have the bowels yearn, i.e. feel

20. Underline how Jesus responded to the needs of the crowds.

- Matthew 14:14 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had **compassion** on them and healed their sick. NIV
- Matthew 15:32,36 Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have **compassion** for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way."...36 Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and they in turn to the people. NIV
- Mark 6:34 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had **compassion** on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. NIV

21. What ongoing opportunity and need did Jesus see? 9:37 How is that need supplied? 9:38

22. What had the Lord promised the nation of Israel? Exodus 15:26 What had happened?

### The Twelve Apostles

23. What authority did Jesus give 12 of His disciples? 10:1 (What other disciples did Jesus have? Luke 10:1)

- What were they also called after this? 10:2

IT'S GREEK TO ME **Disciple** Strong's NT:#3101 *mathetes*; a learner, i.e. pupil

**Apostle** Strong's NT:#652 *apostolos*; a delegate;... officially a commissioner of Christ

"lit., "one sent forth" (apo, "from," stello, "to send")

- Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words

24. From what you know about the backgrounds of the disciples, what is remarkable about the personalities and qualifications of the men Jesus picked? 6:14-16 (i.e. How diverse was this group? How educated were they? Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-29)

**Applying the Word:** Have you ever felt that God couldn't choose you for His work? What does His choice of disciples say to that? What kind of jobs do you see Jesus calling you to do? How does the phrase "the workers are few" speak to your heart?

## Day 4

Jesus Instructs and Warns the Disciples. Read Matthew 10:5-31

### 2<sup>ND</sup> DISCOURSE 10:5-42

25. Where and to whom did Jesus send His apostles? 10:5,6

- When preaching the Kingdom, why was it important that the disciples began their ministry with Israel?

- What happened later? Matthew 28:19

26. What was their message? 10:7

- How was their apostleship confirmed? 10:8 (Cf. Acts 2:43; 19:11,12)

#### **Digging Deeper**

When was the kingdom promised? 2 Samuel 7:16

Where will this kingdom be established and what it be like? Micah 4:1-3

**FYI:** "The **'kingdom of heaven'** is a term descriptive of any type of rulership God may assert on the earth at a given period. As a **predicted** kingdom it has reference to the establishment of the kingdom of Israel on the earth (Acts 1:6) and is the subject of extended glowing prophecies in the OT.

The kingdom of heaven becomes the national hope of Israel (2 Sam 7:4-17). John the Baptist, Christ, and the apostles announced that the kingdom of national Israel was "at hand." That offer was rejected. As a result the "kingdom of heaven" in its earthly manifested form was postponed until Christ's second advent."

- The New Unger's Bible Dictionary

27. What weren't the apostles to do? 10:9,10a

- How were the apostles to be supported and why? 10:10b (See 1 Corinthians 9:11,14) How would this benefit both the apostles and those giving?

#### **Warnings and Hardships**

28. What discretion were they to show about where they stayed? 10:11-13 What do you think Jesus meant by "worthy" (suitable, deserving)?

29. What judgment could they give? 10:14 What would this communicate? (See Acts 13:51; 18:6)

- How serious was this? 10:15

30. What did Jesus warn them about? 10:16a

- What council did Jesus give? 10:16b (Compare Romans 16:19b) What witness would this give? (See Philippians 2:15)

31. What persecution would the disciples face? For what reason? 10:17,18

32. What assurance did Jesus give them? 10:19,20 (For example: See Peter's words: Acts 4:13-16)

For examples of persecution, see Acts 12:3,4; 16:22-24; 21:32-33.

33. How deep and divisive would this opposition get? For what reason? 10:21,22a

- What were they encouraged to do? 10:22b Why might the temptation to give up increase over time?

34. How were they to respond to persecution? 10:23a (See Acts 8:1)

- What witness is going to take place before Christ comes again? 10:23b

35. Why did it follow that the disciples would be treated hatefully? 10:24,25

- In what sense would that be an encouragement to them? See Acts 5:41

36. Why didn't the disciples need to fear this malice? 10:26 (Mark the words "Do not fear" in 10:28,31,33.

- Amazingly, what response did Jesus tell them to have instead? 10:27 How hard would that be to do? (See Peter's boldness in Acts 5:27-32.)

37. What did Jesus say they should and shouldn't fear? 10:28 (Consider: What happened to most of the disciples?)

- What understanding eliminates even this fear? 10:29-31

*Applying the Word: Have you ever been challenged to be as shrewd as a serpent or innocent as a dove in your dealings with people? Explain.*

*"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.  
Matt 10:39 NIV*