



## Mark 2:1-12

### INTRODUCTION

Jesus calls the most sinful of men to himself, showing that he has come only for those who recognize their need for forgiveness and grace.

### INSTRUCTIONS

This guide is meant to facilitate discussion which will lead to a response to God's word. Therefore please use it as tool that best fits the needs of your small group.

### OPENING DISCUSSION

- Read **Mark 2:13-17**
- What do you find interesting/compelling/confusing about this passage?
- What do you learn about Jesus from this passage?

### REVIEW

- Why does Jesus choose Levi? Why does Jesus dine with sinners?
- Describe Levi's sacrifice?
- Why does Levi throw a party?
- Which people do you think Jesus would hang out with today?
- What does the Pharisees' objection to Jesus' friends indicate about their understanding of the gospel? Where do we see similar objections in the church today?
- What does Jesus mean when he says he has not come to call the righteous?

### APPLICATION

- What does it mean to be called by Jesus (**Rom 8:28**)? Describe how he called you.
- What have you left behind to follow Jesus? Why does he demand that we do difficult things?
- Where are you prone to self-righteousness and religious pride?
- What ways do some Christians act like pharisees? Have you ever found yourself doing these things?
- Should Christians practice a form of separatism? What are the benefits of the Christian subculture (Christian schools, Christian coffee shops, Christian sports leagues etc.)? What are the dangers?
- What kinds of "sinners" are you reluctant to befriend?
- In what way do you reach out the lost? What can this community group do to introduce people to Jesus?
- Do you know someone like Levi, who most people would think is not worthy of a call to follow Christ?

### PRAYER (divide the group based on gender if desired)

- What action/repentance does God want you to take according to the truths of this text?
- Are there any other prayer needs?