

## Dinner with Sinners

Luke 5:27-32

📖 Matthew 9:10 (NIV84) “While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew’s house, many tax collectors and “sinners” came and ate with Him and His disciples.”

### 1. Jesus [meets us where we are](#) but doesn’t want to leave us there.

📖 Luke 5:27–28 (Niv84): “After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. “Follow me,” Jesus said to him, <sup>28</sup> and Levi got up, left everything, and followed Him.”

📖 Colossians 1:13–14 (NIV84) “For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

### 2. Jesus [loves us as we are](#) and wants to meet our friends.

📖 Luke 5:29–30 (NIV84) “Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. <sup>30</sup> But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to His disciples, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and ‘sinners?’”

📖 Luke 14:13–14 (MSG) “Invite some people who never get invited out, the misfits from the wrong side of the tracks. <sup>14</sup> You’ll be—and experience—a blessing. They won’t be able to return the favor, but the favor will be returned—oh, how it will be returned!—at the resurrection of God’s people.”


### 3. Jesus [diagnoses us as we are](#) and treats us with great care.

📖 Luke 5:31–32 (NIV84) “Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. <sup>32</sup> I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

📖 Luke 5:12–13 (NIV84) “While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged Him, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.” <sup>13</sup> Jesus reached out His hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” He said. “Be clean!” And immediately the leprosy left him.”

📖 Luke 5:24 (NIV84) “But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins....” He told the paralyzed man, “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.

**Digging Deeper:** Where did you first meet Jesus? What has Jesus called you away from?

 What have you left behind to follow Him? In this world, we may be labeled in many ways, but Jesus labels us as “LOVED.” How does that make you feel? Have you introduced your friends to Jesus? When was the last time you upset a fuddy-duddy? When did you do something that bothered the crowd but made God glad? If not, what holds you back? What worries you? What do you hope Jesus does for you?