

Series: Meals with Jesus
Title: It Started with a Meal
Speaker: Bob Marvel
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1. When you were growing up were there predictable meals each week like a Sunday dinner?
2. Reading Luke 15:1-2, Matthew 9:9-13 and from William Barkley's comment here, what's so unconventional, so scandalous, so shocking about Matthew's dinner party?

"When a man is one of the People of the Land, entrust no money to him, take no testimony from him, trust him with no secret, do not appoint him guardian of an orphan, do not make him the custodian of charitable funds, do not accompany him on a journey."
- Gospel of Luke Commentary

3. Similarly, what's different about us paying taxes to the IRS and the Jews paying taxes to Rome and to Matthew in particular?

To really get the feel for what it's like to eat with a tax collector, watch 'The Chosen'.

4. Put yourself in the sandals of the disciples. How would they react to going to Matthew's home for a dinner?
5. How do you think Matthew would react to Jesus coming to his party? "People who were nothing like Jesus, liked him, and he liked them back". Andy Stanley in Starting Point
6. How might Matthew react to being referred to as 'sick'?
7. What kind of people do you might consider far away from God?
8. Looking at Matthew 9:13 what can we learn about spiritual "social/spiritual/ distancing" from this meal with Jesus? What are the implications for church ministry today?
9. How did this meal and Jesus initial interaction with him impact Matthew's life? See 9:9-13 again. Looking at Matthew 10:2-4, what stands out about the two disciples who get titles?

10. How would Jesus, how could Jesus keep these political extremes together on his team?
11. How does this relate to families and churches who so drastically differ on what it means to be a good citizen?
12. What happens to the people around us when we follow Jesus?

"Good things as well as bad, you know, are caught by a kind of infection. If you want to get warm you must stand near the fire; if you want to be wet you must get into the water. If you want joy, power, peace, eternal life, you must get close to, or even into, the thing that has them."

"He came to this world and became a man in order to spread to other men the kind of life He has—by what I call "good infection". Every Christian is to become a little Christ."

-C.S. Lewis- Mere Christianity

Want to learn how to engage people as Jesus did?

Check out Engage in Relationships starting
<https://www.cornwallchurch.com/events/engage-in-relationship/2021-03-07/>