

# JESUS' PERSPECTIVE OF THE LOST DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MATTHEW 9:9-13

1 **In Matthew 9:9-13, we see Jesus' perspective on the needs of those around him.** What is the greatest need of mankind? What is a sinner? What does the Bible say about those who are lost in their sins? Discuss as a group what you would say if you were explaining who is a sinner and the effects of sin to someone. Interact with Bible verses in your explanation.

2 **Think about why Matthew responded to Jesus' call.** Read the passage again through the lens that Matthew is telling his own story. What stands out to you when viewing the story that way?

⚙️ *Jesus said, "Follow me." and Matthew followed. (Matt. 9:9) What did Matthew leave behind? What have you had to leave behind to follow Jesus?*

⚙️ *How would Matthew's former life as a tax collector have impacted his days as one of Jesus' followers?*

⚙️ *What do you need to remember about how God can use your story as you follow Jesus with others? Read 1 Timothy 1:13-17*

3 **Read Luke 18:9-14.** This parable reinforces Jesus' point from Matthew 9:9-13. In Luke 18:9 it says that Jesus told this parable "to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt."

✍️ *Read Matthew 9:13. What can guard us from falling into the same dangerous trap of trusting in ourselves for righteousness and treating others with contempt?*

✍️ *In Matthew 9, Jesus encounters opposition for the first time in His public ministry. Look over the rest of the chapter. What are the forms of opposition to Jesus that surface in chapter 9? (Look for four).*

✍️ *What is Matthew showing us in both how Jesus acts and how the Pharisees oppose Jesus' actions? Think of Matthew's overall message of Jesus' ultimate authority as King.*

✍️ *How can we avoid aligning ourselves with opposition to Jesus? What needs to change about how we view church life or how we interact with the lost so that we are not in danger of echoing the words of the Pharisees with our choices? In what ways do you need to be more submissive to the merciful and gracious kingdom and rule of Jesus?*

