

“Friends in low places”

Matthew 9:9:13

Main Idea: Jesus helps those who can't help themselves and know they can't.

The Calling of Matthew (9)

Matthew's profession

Cultural stigma

The Dinner at Matthew's (10)

Questionable company

Cultural perceptions

Endorsement

Guilt by association

The Pharisees' Objection (11)

Questioning Jesus' disciples

The meaning of “Why” (judgment not curiosity)

Jesus Explains His Mission (12-13)

Illustration of “physician”

“I desire mercy not sacrifice”

The call to sinners

Application

Family Life Groups

“Friends in Low Places”

Matthew 9:9-13

Main Idea: Jesus helps those who can't help themselves and know they can't.

1) Jesus was called the “Friend of sinners.” This was His reputation, because He hung out with them (even though they were despised and ostracized by the religious leaders of that day). Do you seek out “sinners” for friends? Do you hang out with “sinners?”

2) How can we be the friend of “sinners” (homosexuals, adulterers, liars, drunkards, IRS agents) and not condone their sin? How can we address their sin and their need for Jesus?

Questions? Contact Pastor Stan Myers at stan@ebcsalem.com