



## Lunch with Jesus

Part 2

June 15, 2025

Pastor Tim Lambert



- I. **Review** Meals become a place where powerful moments can happen. Eating together many times opens up the hearts of people to conversations that are deep. Meals are where the mission of Jesus met the hurting and broken, and meals were where theology met humanity, and meals were where grace was served literally and spiritually.
- II. **Introduction** God used Luke to interview and record the ministry of Jesus so that it wouldn't be just oral accounts of Jesus' mission, but revealed truth that could transform lives.

**Luke 5:27-32 (TLB)** Later on as Jesus left the town he saw a tax collector—with the usual reputation for cheating—sitting at a tax collection booth. The man's name was Levi. Jesus said to him, "Come and be one of my disciples!" So Levi left everything, sprang up, and went with him. Soon Levi held a reception in his home with Jesus as the guest of honor. Many of Levi's fellow tax collectors and other guests were there. But the Pharisees and teachers of the Law complained bitterly to Jesus' disciples about his eating with such notorious sinners. Jesus answered them, "It is the sick who need a doctor, not those in good health. My purpose is to invite sinners to turn from their sins, not to spend my time with those who think themselves already good enough."

### III. Jesus saw more than the usual, he saw the useful.

- A. Tax collectors had a reputation:
  - Pharisees considered them traitors and outcasts.

"There is still One whose faith in you has never wavered. And how wonderful it is that that one should be Jesus Christ! It was a wonderful dream God dreamed, Christ says, when He created you; it was a stately being that was in His mind when you were fashioned; and I can make you all He meant that you should be." ~ A.J. Gossip

### IV. Matthew saw someone worth leaving everything to follow.

- A. Matthew had a choice to make.
- B. His response was immediate:

**Mark 8:35-37 (TPT)** For if you let your life go for my sake and for the sake of the gospel, you will continually experience true life. But if you choose to keep your life for yourself, you will forfeit what you try to keep. For what use is it to gain all the wealth and power of this world, with everything it could offer you, at the cost of your own life? And what could be more valuable to you than your own soul?

**Ephesians 2:10 (AMPC)** For we are God's own handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live].



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### V. Matthew makes known his newly consecrated life.

A. Consecration brings transparency.

**Matthew 10:32-33 (NLT)** Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven.

**“Consecration is going all in and all out for the All in All.” ~ Mark Batterson**

B. Consecration opens eyes to spiritual needs.

**Romans 5:21 (EASY)** We see that sin ruled people's lives and brought death to them. But God's gift makes people right with him, and that is what rules their lives. People receive that gift because God is kind. As a result, they will have life with God for ever, because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done.

### VI. Jesus desires to be the honored guest in everyone's life.

A. No outcasts, everyone is wanted.

**John 6:40 (NIRV)** My Father wants all who look to the Son and believe in him to have eternal life. I will raise them up on the last day.

If there existed only one man or woman who did not love the Savior, and if that person lived among the wilds of Siberia, and if it were necessary that all the millions of believers on the face of the earth should journey there, and every one of them plead with him to come to Jesus before he could be converted, it would be well worth all the zeal, labor, and expense. If we had to preach to thousands year after year, and never rescued but one soul, that one soul would be full reward for all our labor, for a soul is of countless price. ~ Charles Spurgeon

B. Opposition is real, but don't let it stop the meal.



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**Luke 15:7 (GW)** I can guarantee that there will be more happiness in heaven over one person who turns to God and changes the way he thinks and acts than over 99 people who already have turned to God and have his approval.

**Matthew 9:13 (NLT)** Then he added, “Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: ‘I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.’ For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners.”

**The Word of God is like a lion. You don’t have to defend a lion. All you have to do is let the lion loose, and the lion will defend itself. ~ Charles Spurgeon**

**Hosea 6:6 (NKJV)** For I desire mercy and not sacrifice, And the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.