

Getting to Know Each Other.

Share light refreshments. Go around the group and introduce yourselves and talk through this question: *“When you were growing up, who was one of your favorite T.V. or movie ‘bad guys’?”* *

Follow up. Did you get to share with someone about Jesus this past week?
Or how else did you obey Jesus?

Vision. Jesus told us to “Make disciples.” The purpose of our Life Group is: To help people become Believers in Jesus and grow up to become Disciple Makers.

Bible Study Introduction. From the start, Jesus began choosing a group of men whom He would train as His disciples. Among the first was a tax collector named Levi, who was also called Matthew. As a Jewish man, collecting taxes for the Roman government, Levi was looked down upon as a traitor. And the religious leaders, the scribes and Pharisees, considered him among the worst kind of sinners.

Pray. Before we read the Scripture, let’s pray that God will speak to each one of us.

Read. We will read through the passage three times and then discuss it, so listen carefully.
Get three people to read **Mark 2:13-17** **

Discuss these questions, one at a time, encouraging everyone who wants to respond to do so.
Remind the group: Keep your answers based just on this passage.

1. What stands out or surprises you in this passage?
2. What does it show us about people and choices we can make?
 - What logical reasons could Levi have given Jesus for not following Him right away?
 - What does Levi’s immediate response show about Levi?
3. What does this passage show us about God?
 - What does Jesus’ willingness to eat with tax collectors and sinners show about Him?
 - What kind of people did Jesus say He had come to call?
 - How does this make you feel?

Obeying Jesus. As disciples of Jesus, we want to follow Jesus in whatever way He is leading us today. As we pray silently for 30 seconds, see if God speaks to your heart. Pray something like this:
“Lord Jesus, what do you want me to do with what You are showing me today?” [30 sec. silent prayer]

Remember to obey what God is saying to you. And this week ask God who He wants you to talk with about Jesus. Let’s close in prayer.

Closing Prayer.

Pray something like: “Lord, prepare the hearts of the people we will be sharing the Good News of Jesus with this week. And give us strength and joy as we follow You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

** Use a different “icebreaker” if you prefer.*

*** Reading from different translations often helps.*