



MIGHTIER

THE GOSPEL OF MARK

DAY I: THE CALL THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING

DEVOTIONAL:

Imagine sitting at your desk, going about your regular workday, when someone walks up and says two simple words that change your life forever: "Follow me." This is exactly what happened to Levi, a tax collector who was despised by his community. He wasn't seeking Jesus, cleaning up his act, or even thinking about spiritual matters. Yet Jesus saw something in him that others missed. What's remarkable about this story is that Jesus didn't wait for Levi to become worthy of the call. He didn't say, "Go home, get your life together, then come back." Instead, Jesus met Levi exactly where he was - in his tax booth, in his mess, in his brokenness. This reveals something beautiful about how God works in our lives. Perhaps you've been waiting to get your life together before truly following Jesus. Maybe you think you need to overcome certain struggles or reach a certain level of spiritual maturity first. But Jesus calls us to follow Him so that He can make us well, not the other way around. Your transformation is the result of following Jesus, not a prerequisite for it. Today, Jesus is still calling people from their ordinary places - your office, your home, your struggles - to follow Him. The question isn't whether you're good enough; it's whether you'll respond to His call.

BIBLE VERSE:

"As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector's booth. 'Follow me,' Jesus told him, and Levi got up and followed him." - Mark 2:14

REFLECTION QUESTION:

What "tax booth" in your life might Jesus be calling you to leave behind in order to follow Him more fully?

SERMON QUOTE:

"God does not make you go and be well in order to follow Jesus. He calls us to follow Jesus so that Jesus makes us well."

PRAYER:

Jesus, thank You for calling me just as I am, not as I should be. Help me to respond to Your call with the same immediacy and trust that Levi showed. Amen.

NOTES:



MIGHTIER

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DAY 2: LEAVING IT ALL BEHIND

DEVOTIONAL:

When Levi heard Jesus say “Follow me,” his response was immediate and complete. Luke tells us he “left it all” to follow Jesus. This wasn’t just about leaving his job - it was about leaving his entire identity, his security, and his way of life. As a tax collector, Levi had wealth, status (even if despised), and a predictable income. Following Jesus meant walking away from financial security and stepping into the unknown. Yet something about Jesus’ call was so compelling that Levi didn’t hesitate. Following Jesus isn’t just about walking behind Him in proximity - it means pursuing Him and changing our lives according to His. It requires us to evaluate what we’re holding onto that might be keeping us from fully embracing His call. Sometimes it’s obvious things like harmful habits or relationships. Other times it’s subtler - our need for control, our pursuit of comfort, or our attachment to others’ approval. Levi’s story shows us that whatever we leave behind to follow Jesus pales in comparison to what we gain. He went from being an outcast to becoming a disciple, from being despised to being used by God to write one of the Gospels. When we trust Jesus enough to leave our “tax booths,” He always has something better in store. What is Jesus asking you to leave behind today? Trust that His plans for you are far greater than anything you’re holding onto.

BIBLE VERSE:

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” - Romans 5:8

REFLECTION QUESTION:

What comfort, security, or identity are you reluctant to surrender in order to follow Jesus more completely?

SERMON QUOTE:

“Following Jesus is more than just coming behind Him in proximity. It means to pursue Him. It means to change my life in according to His.”

PRAYER:

Lord, give me the courage to let go of whatever is keeping me from following You wholeheartedly. Help me trust that Your plans are better than my own. Amen.

NOTES:



MIGHTIER

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DAY 3: USING YOUR PLATFORM FOR JESUS

DEVOTIONAL:

After Levi decided to follow Jesus, he did something beautiful - he threw a party. But this wasn't just any celebration; it was a strategic gathering. Levi invited Jesus to meet his friends, using his influence and resources to introduce other outcasts to the One who had transformed his life. Levi understood something profound: his newfound faith wasn't meant to be kept to himself. He had a platform - relationships, a home, resources - and he immediately began using it to point others toward Jesus. He didn't wait until he had it all figured out or until he'd been following Jesus for years. He started sharing right away. Each of us has a platform, whether we realize it or not. It might be your workplace, your neighborhood, your family, or your social media presence. It could be your skills, your story, or simply your relationships. The question is: how are you using your platform to introduce others to Jesus? Levi's friends were probably skeptical. After all, tax collectors didn't usually change their ways. But they came to the dinner, and they met Jesus. Sometimes the most powerful evangelism happens when people see authentic transformation in our lives and want to know what made the difference. You don't need to be perfect to share Jesus with others. You just need to be willing to use whatever influence you have to create opportunities for people to encounter Him.

BIBLE VERSE:

"While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him." - Mark 2:15

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How can you use your current relationships and influence to create opportunities for others to encounter Jesus?

SERMON QUOTE:

"Matthew is using his platform to invite his friends to meet Jesus."

PRAYER:

God, help me see the platform You've given me and use it boldly to introduce others to You. Give me wisdom and courage to create opportunities for people to meet Jesus. Amen.

NOTES:



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DAY 4: JESUS, THE FRIEND OF SINNERS

DEVOTIONAL:

When the religious leaders saw Jesus eating with tax collectors and sinners, they were scandalized. In their minds, a holy person wouldn't associate with such people. But Jesus' response revealed the heart of His mission: "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." Jesus used a simple analogy: healthy people don't need a doctor, but sick people do. The religious leaders thought they were spiritually healthy and didn't need Jesus. But the tax collectors and sinners knew they were broken and desperately needed healing. Ironically, those who seemed furthest from God were actually closest to receiving His grace. This truth is both humbling and liberating. It's humbling because it reminds us that we're all sinners in need of grace. None of us can earn our way to God through good behavior or religious performance. But it's liberating because it means Jesus came specifically for people like us - broken, flawed, and in need of a Savior. The danger comes when we start thinking we're righteous on our own. As long as we believe we don't need Jesus, we remain distant from Him. But when we acknowledge our need, we discover that Jesus is the friend of sinners - our friend. If you're saved today, you're a sinner saved by grace. That's not something to be ashamed of; it's your identity and your testimony. It's what connects you to every other person who needs Jesus.

BIBLE VERSE:

"On hearing this, Jesus said to them, 'It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.'" - Mark 2:17

REFLECTION QUESTION:

In what areas of your life do you still struggle to accept that you need Jesus' grace rather than trying to earn His approval?

SERMON QUOTE:

"Jesus, the friend of sinners, came to those who know that they need Him."

PRAYER:

Jesus, thank You for being the friend of sinners like me. Help me never forget my need for Your grace and to extend that same grace to others. Amen.

NOTES:



MIGHTIER

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DAY 5: FROM OUTCAST TO EVANGELIST

DEVOTIONAL:

The transformation of Levi is one of the most remarkable stories in Scripture. He began as an outcast - excommunicated from the temple, despised by society, and considered a traitor to his own people. But by the end of the story, he's not just saved; he's become a disciple and an evangelist, introducing his friends to Jesus. This same Levi became Matthew, the gospel writer. The man who once collected taxes for Rome became the one who collected stories about Jesus for eternity. His life went from being a source of shame to being a source of hope for millions of people throughout history. This is what Jesus does - He takes our mess and turns it into our message. He takes our pain and transforms it into our purpose. The very experiences that once brought us shame can become the platform from which we share His grace with others. Your story matters. Whether you feel like an outcast or think your past disqualifies you from being used by God, remember Levi's story. Jesus is still calling people to follow Him, and He's still transforming outcasts into evangelists. The question that echoes through this story is simple but profound: Will you stay in your tax booth, or will you follow the Savior when He calls your name? Your response to that call doesn't just determine your eternal destination - it shapes your entire legacy and the lives you'll touch along the way.

BIBLE VERSE:

"While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him." - Mark 2:15

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How might God want to use your story - including your struggles and failures - to reach others who need to hear about His grace?

SERMON QUOTE:

"A known sinner has become an evangelist, inviting his friends to meet Jesus."

PRAYER:

Lord, transform my story into a testimony of Your grace. Use my experiences, both good and difficult, to point others toward You. Amen.

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