



*if...*

only someone  
loved me  
unconditionally?

**Matthew 9:9-13**

**Pg 687**

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and "sinners" came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and 'sinners'?"

On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.

But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

*if...*

# Matthew: The Man Jesus Saw

- Jesus “saw” him
- Matthew: “The gift of God” or Levi
- Publican
- Wealthy
- Social Outcast

# Matthew's Call: Follow Me

- Be my disciple (Not exclusively Christian)
- Leave old life behind...Start a new life w/me
- Give yourself over to me
- Following Jesus meant He is the Messiah
- Leaving EVERYTHING behind

# The Concerns: Matthew

- He didn't want to follow Jesus alone
- Came up with a plan
- Matthew sold out...not concerned what they might think of him
- Matthew wanted people like him to know Jesus
- Matthew wanted his friends to follow Jesus

# The Concerns: Jews

- Why does “your teacher” eat with sinners?
  - >Friendship
  - >Fellowship
  - >Equality
- The Messiah would NEVER associate with “those people”

# The Concerns: Jesus

- For those lost in sin “the sick”
- For the disciples
- For the Jews

# Our Challenge

- God sees you...regardless of how far you may feel from Him
- God calls you to follow Him...just like Matthew
- Who will you bring with you? Who are you concerned for today?