



MATTHEW

9 : 9-13

*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to **obey** everything I have commanded you.” — Matthew 28:19-20a*

*“The Baptist Church of Franklin exists to make **more** and **better** followers of Jesus Christ.” — BCF Membership Binder*

OBSERVE and REFLECT

You Are Forgiven: Matthew 9:9

- Why did most Jews despise tax collectors like Matthew?
- How is it remarkable that Jesus called Matthew as a disciple?

You Are Accepted: Matthew 9:10-11

- What was the significance of sharing a meal in Jewish culture?
- Why were the Pharisees concerned about the company Jesus' kept?

You Are Healed: Matthew 9:12-13

- What is Jesus trying to communicate in these verses?
- What is the significance of the quote from Hosea 6:6? Use your study tools if available to you (such as a study Bible).

OBEY

1. For God, all sins are equally forgivable. What is the significance of this to you? How does it affect your forgiveness toward others? Why might it be difficult for us to forgive “big sins” of others?
2. For the Pharisees, holiness (being like God) meant keeping themselves separate from “sinners.” But for Jesus, it meant accepting sinful people at the table. How should this affect our lives as Christians? What challenges does this present for life in the Church?
3. Jesus said to the Pharisees, “I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.” Why would God take this approach? Think of your world today: Who are the *righteous*? Who are the *sinners*?
4. What might be another real-life application God wants us to hear in this passage? This could be a *command* to obey, a *faith principle* to be reinforced, or an *attitude* to be changed.

****Weekly Bonus Questions****

- What’s one “a-ha” moment you’ve taken away from this discussion?
- What’s one thing you should do differently this week because of what you’ve learned here?