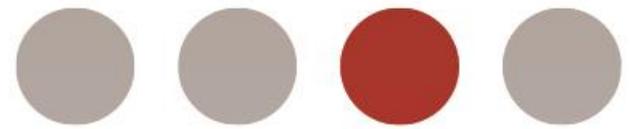




Outsiders Brought In



MARK



Jesus wants to make clear all are invited into fellowship with Him. Mark gives us two accounts of Jesus' interaction with and invitation to outcasts to help us appreciate the inclusive nature of the gospel invitation.



Mark 2:13-17

¹³ He went out again beside the sea, and all the crowd was coming to him, and he was teaching them. ¹⁴ And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him. ¹⁵ And as he reclined at table in his house, many tax collectors and sinners were reclining with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many who followed him.



Mark 2:13-17

¹⁶ And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, “Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹⁷ And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”



Jesus invites an outsider into His inner circle.



Mark 2:13-14

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Levi – the Wrong Guy



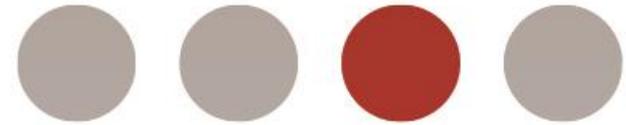
Levi – the Wrong Guy

- **Tax Collector**



Levi – the Wrong Guy

- Tax Collector
 - **Worked for Herod Antipas. The Romans.**



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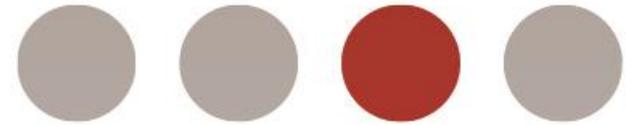
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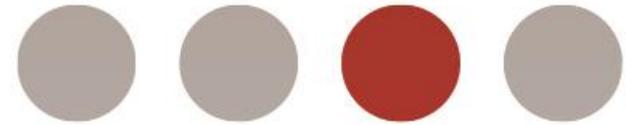
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 - Traitor.
 - Not abiding by Mosaic written code or added rules.
 - **Not attempting to live a life that appears to please God.**



Levi's qualifications for being invited:



Levi's qualifications for being invited:

- **Sinner.**



Levi's qualifications for being invited:

- Sinner.

Levi's response to Jesus invitation:



Levi's qualifications for being invited:

- Sinner.

Levi's response to Jesus invitation:

- **Followed Jesus.**



What Levi forfeited:



What Levi forfeited:

- **Lifestyle.**



What Levi forfeited:

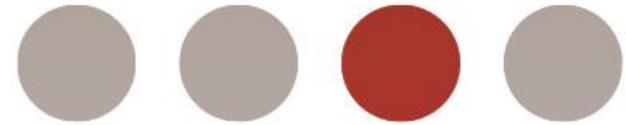
- Lifestyle.
- **Financial security.**



What Levi forfeited:

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What Levi gained:



What Levi forfeited:

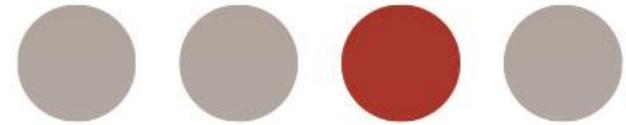
- Lifestyle.
- Financial security.

What Levi gained:

- **Spiritual security.**



Jesus invites outsiders into relationship with Him.



Mark 2:15-17

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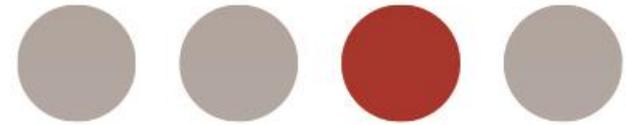


Tax collectors and sinners – the Wrong People.



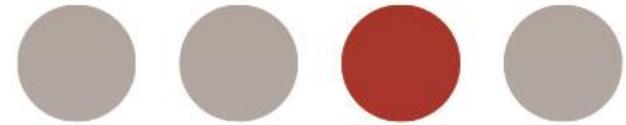
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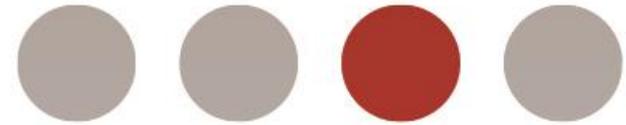
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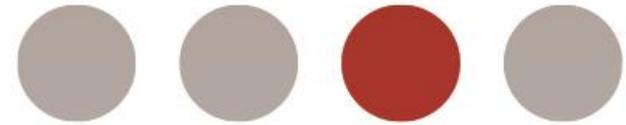
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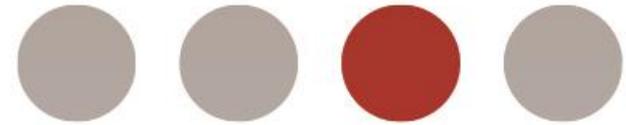
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 - **Those embracing a lifestyle that they themselves would consider sinful.**



**Tax collectors and sinners qualifications
for being invited to dinner:**



Tax collectors and sinners qualifications
for being invited to dinner:

- **Sinners.**

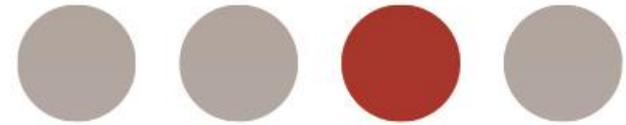


Tax collectors and sinners response to Jesus' invitation:



Tax collectors and sinners response to Jesus' invitation:

- **Willing to consider following Jesus.**



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What the tax collectors and sinners gained:



What the tax collectors and sinners gained:

- **Meal with Jesus.**



What the tax collectors and sinners gained:

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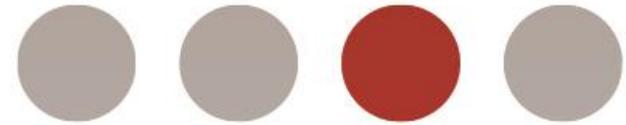


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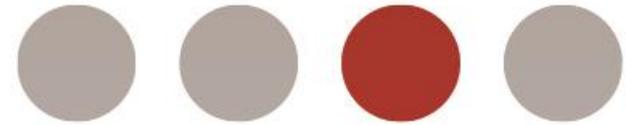
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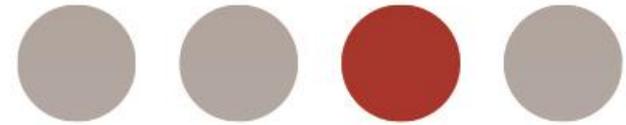
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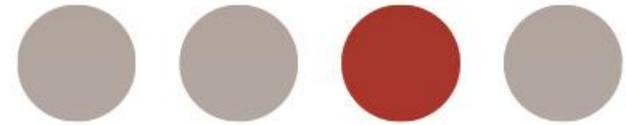
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 - **Recognition of our need for an invitation.**
 - **We are sinners.**



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- Jesus' invitation has two criteria to be welcomed in:
 - Recognition of our need for an invitation. We are sinners.
 - **Decide to follow Jesus.**



Takeaways:



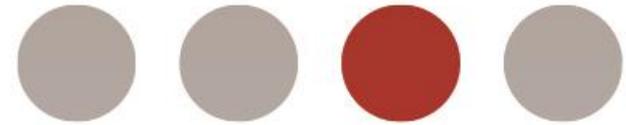
Takeaways:

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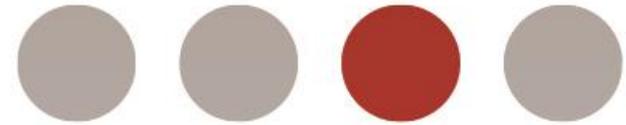
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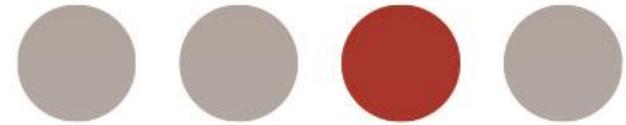
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- If you are feeling on the outside, please don't give up.
- **If you are feeling engaged, be looking for those who could use a hand to be pulled in.**