Sermon Notes for March 5, 2017

Calling Sinners
Luke 5:27-32

Introduction

Sometimes churches forget their mission.
We forget that Jesus is still calling sinners and he has called us to join him in that work.


Jesus reaches out to those who are outcasts in society.

Tax collectors were despised in Jesus’ day.

So when Jesus calls Levi to be his disciple it is shocking, even scandalous.

We know Levi as Matthew.

Jesus saw what Levi could become.

Jesus sees what we can become by the grace of God.

Following Jesus calls for radical obedience.

II. A Great Celebration. Luke 5:29

This is a beautiful picture of conversion.

For one thing, new birth is a reason to celebrate!

“In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” Luke 15:10

“It is a far more important event than being married, or coming of age, or being made a nobleman, or receiving a great fortune. It is the birth of an immortal soul! It is the rescue of a sinner from hell! It is a passage from death to life! It is being made a king and priest for evermore! It is being provided for, both in time and eternity! It is adoption into the noblest and richest of all families, the family of God!” Bishop J.C. Ryle

A second reason to celebrate is when you know Jesus, you want your friends to know him too!
III. A Good Doctor. Luke 5:30-32

The Pharisees were not happy with this party.

“Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”

The Pharisees taught strict separation from the world, but Jesus did not. We are to be separate from sin, but not from sinners.

“As you have sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.” John 17:18

Jesus answered the Pharisees with a profound truth. “It isn’t the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

The first step in getting well spiritually is to admit we are sinners and turn to him in repentance.

Conclusion

Don’t forget the mission!

Be all in!

Invite your friends!

Join with Jesus in his great work of calling sinners!