Fear of Disappointing God

Matthew 9:1-13
We all make mistakes. We all have sinned.

We remember our failures more than our successes. “Zeigarnik Effect”

We see our failures and we fear we’ve disappointed God.
We see our sin and we fear we have exhausted his grace.  
But that’s not the way God sees us.
I. When we come to know Christ, he forgives us all our sins. Matthew 9:1-8
“Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.”

Jesus saw his deeper need for forgiveness.

In order to show that he had the power to forgive sins, he said to the man, “Get up, take your mat and go home.”

Jesus has the power to forgive sins.
“When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross.”

Colossians 2:13-14
“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” I John 1:9
II. When we come to Christ, we become a new creation. Matthew 9:9-13
“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”
II Corinthians 5:17
Jesus now calls a man whose occupation made him a pariah – a social outcast.

Tax collectors:

• Were collaborators with Rome.
• Made their money by overcharging on taxes.
• Had such a reputation for dishonesty, they couldn’t even testify in court.
• Were barred from worship in the synagogue.
The orthodox were forbidden to walk with them, to do business with them, to eat with them or to have them into their home. Yet Jesus called Matthew to be his disciple and he ate with him in his home.

“It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.”

If God could use Matthew, he can use you and me.
Don’t let your sin be an excuse for not serving God.

Confess your sin. Turn from it (repentance) and follow Christ.
III. When we come to Christ, his love casts out all fear.
“There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment.” 1 John 4:18
“Therefore, there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life has set me free from the law of sin and death.” Romans 8:1-2
“Jesus loves us too much to leave us in doubt about his grace.”
Max Lucado

If Christ had not come for us, we all would have died in our sins.
Conclusion

Don’t let your sin and your failures keep you from following Christ.

Confess your sins to Christ and he will forgive you.

Surrender your life to Christ and he will lead you.