

“You Belong Here”  
Discovering Your Roots – Part 1

Matthew 9:9-17

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Q. Have you ever felt like a stranger?

Q. Has someone reached out to you, to make you feel welcome? What happened?

Q. Has there been a time in your life when you felt disconnected?

When are invited to follow Jesus we are given:

I. New ways to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Vs. 9-12)

9 As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's office; and He said to him, Be My disciple [side with My party and follow Me]. And he rose and followed Him. 10 And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and [especially wicked] sinners came and sat (reclined) with Him and His disciples.11 And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, Why does your Master eat with tax collectors and those [preeminently] sinful?12 But when Jesus heard it, He replied, Those who are strong *and* well (healthy) have no need of a physician, but those who are weak *and* sick.

II. New ways to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Vs. 13-15)

13 Go and learn what this means: I desire mercy [that is, readiness to help those in trouble] and not sacrifice *and* sacrificial victims. For I came not to call *and* invite [to repentance] the righteous (those who are upright and in right standing with God), but sinners (the erring ones and all those not free from sin). [Hos. 6:6.]

14 Then the disciples of John came to Jesus, inquiring, Why is it that we and the Pharisees fast *often,* [that is, abstain from food and drink as a religious exercise], but Your disciples do not fast?15 And Jesus replied to them, Can the wedding guests mourn while the bridegroom is still with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.

III. New ways to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Vs. 16-17)

16 And no one puts a piece of cloth that has not been shrunk on an old garment, for such a patch tears away from the garment and a worse rent (tear) is made.

17 Neither is new wine put in old wineskins; for if it is, the skins burst and are torn in pieces, and the wine is spilled and the skins are ruined. But new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved.

**POINT:**



Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

1. Is mercy a difficult application?
2. Who do I need to practice mercy with this week?
3. How can I follow my neighbor out into the world, responding to their needs as they emerge?
4. What areas in my life needs, identity, purpose, belonging.
   * Career vs. Calling
   * Creating/restoring relationships with others
   * Connecting through small groups
   * Become Spiritual discipline
   * Becoming more fruitful in my life
   * Devotional life
   * Understanding Christianity
   * Maturing/ developing my faith

Let your hands and heart be merciful and full of good deeds.

- Pastor Donovan