

JESUS IS WILLING, FORGIVING, AND WORTH FOLLOWING

Text: Luke 5:12-32

Jesus has the power to _____ sinners

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Jesus is able and willing!

And today He is ready for you to come to Him!

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION ON LUKE 5:12-32

Read through the entire passage first, then answer the following:

1. Why do you think Jesus sent the man healed from leprosy to the back to the priest?
2. Amidst all the other sensational details, why did Luke include verse 16?
3. Why do you think Jesus forgave the paralytic's sins first (in verse 20), before he healed him (in verse 23)? What does this tell us about Jesus' primary purpose in coming to earth?
4. How do verse 23-24 show us Jesus' purpose for miracles?
5. What do you think the Pharisees were thinking in verse 26?
 - a. While we know that some Pharisees did come to Christ (like Nicodemus in John 3 and later, Saul) most were still hardened against Him. Why do you think Pharisees stayed resistant to Christ? What similar sinful mindsets must we guard against in our own lives?
6. Tax collectors, like Levi (Matthew), were especially hated by the Jewish people because they were usually Jewish by blood but worked for the Roman government. They were known to over-quote the people their tax amount and keep the margin for themselves. What point was Jesus making by choosing a tax collector as one of his disciples?
 - a. Who might be considered the tax collectors of modern day?
 - b. What kind of statement would it make for them to follow Christ?
7. It is quite likely, in verse 29, that the "others" included all sorts of "undesirables" among the community. Yet Jesus was choosing to socialize with them. What are some principles to compassion and outreach to such as these that you can apply? Think of some practical, specific areas that you might apply these principles.