

Life Group Questions

BLESS - Eating Together (Matthew 9:9-13)

Instructions: A life group is like family. It is a time of growing in Jesus together, caring for each other, and living out Jesus' mission together. It's good to begin with prayer and the CONNECT questions to get to know one another and focus. Then read the Scriptures and discuss the questions. Make sure to conclude with an "I will" statement to apply the passage. Finish with a time of prayer together.

CONNECT Questions

- 1. Does throwing parties challenge or enhance your assumptions about what it means to share the gospel?
- 2. Is there a thought or idea that especially intrigued, provoked, disturbed, challenged, encouraged, or surprised you?
- 3. Share something you are thankful for or a challenge you are facing right now.
- 4. How did you do with your last "I Will" statement?

READ Matthew 9:9-13

- 1. Have someone retell the story in their own words?
- 2. What stands out to you?
- 3. Why do you think Jesus chose to eat with the tax-collectors and sinners?
- 4. Why do you think the Pharisees were so angry?
- 5. Do you think the Pharisees would have been invited to the dinner?
- 6. What does it mean that Jesus "desires mercy, not sacrifice"?
- 7. What do you learn about God in this passage? (his character, his ways, etc.)
- 8. What do you learn about people in this passage? (yourself, others)

LIVE IT OUT

- 1. Make an "I will" statement about who you can invite to share a meal and when you will extend the invitation.
- 2. Come up with a date for your group to host a party/dinner/cookout where others are invited? List people whom you can invite.

<u>PRAY</u>