



## WHAT DOES GOD DESIRE FROM US?

*Matthew 9:9-13*

**April 24, 2022**  
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Good morning Church! Today, let us study a passage where Jesus connects with the lepers, the lame, the lustful, and the losers. However, Jesus is disconnected with the religious leaders. Jesus has come for people who know their true need and are willing to follow Him. Jesus connects with sinners, engages and eats with sinners and this causes the legalistic leaders' skin to crawl.

*"As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him. **10** And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. **11** And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" **12** But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. **13** Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners." **Matthew 9:9-13***

- Jesus is the PHYSICIAN who heals SPIRITUAL as well as PHYSICAL sickness.

*"For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned."*

**Romans 12:3**

- Jesus Desires MERCY, and not SACRIFICE.

*"For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings." **Hosea 6:6***

*"And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." **Mark 12:33***

### 1. God Doesn't Desire For Us A POSITION of POWER and CONTROL.

*"Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."* **Luke 15:7**

### 2. God Doesn't Desire For Us A WORK of EMPTYNESS and EXHAUSTION.

*"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. **22** On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' **23** And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness."*

**Matthew 7:21-23**

*"He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"* **Micah 6:8**

### 3. God Desires Us To KNOW Him TRUTHFULLY.

*Mercy/Sacrifice Examples:*

- **Cain & Abel** (Genesis 4:1-5)
- **Mary and Martha** (Luke 10:38-42)

*"But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, **42** but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."*

**Luke 10:41-42**

#### **Salvation through Jesus Christ**

*The single most important decision you could ever make is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, all have sinned and fall short of God's glory and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death. Yet through God's love, only Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead — YOU WILL BE SAVED. The Bible says to REPENT of your sins, BELIEVE in Jesus thereby receiving His forgiveness. And identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.*