



# LIFEGROUPS STUDY GUIDE

*"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Acts 2:42*

**SERIES:**

Metamorphosis

**MESSAGE TITLE:**

From Publican to Preacher

**MESSAGE DATE:**

01/05/2025

**MESSAGE SUMMARY:**

Pastor Matt introduced a new series called "Metamorphosis," which focuses on four biblical characters transformed by their encounters with Jesus. The first character discussed is Matthew, a tax collector despised by society, who Jesus called to follow Him, demonstrating how Jesus reaches out to those marginalized and viewed as outcasts. Pastor Matt emphasized that true fulfillment comes not from worldly possessions or status but from an authentic relationship with Jesus, inviting everyone to make a decision to actively follow Him.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1.) In what ways do you think Matthew's transformation from a tax collector to a preacher impacts our understanding of God's grace?

*Matthew's radical change showed that anyone can be transformed by an encounter with Jesus.*

*How can you apply the concept of grace and transformation in your own life and in your relationships with others?*

- 2.) What qualities or behaviors made tax collectors like Matthew despised during his time, and how does this reflect on today's society?

*Matthew, as a tax collector, was seen as a traitor to his people and was viewed negatively by both Jews and Romans, making him a target of scorn.*

*In what ways can understanding the reasons behind someone being judged help us better relate to those who might feel isolated or misunderstood today?*

- 3.) When Jesus says 'Follow me' to Matthew, what does this simple invitation tell you about how God desires to interact with us?

*Jesus's invitation was straightforward and lacked any elaborate expectations, showing the simplicity of following Him.*

*How can you respond to God's invitation in your life today in a way that reflects trust and willingness?*



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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

4.) What does it mean to 'leave everything' behind as Matthew did when he chose to follow Jesus?

*Matthew left his wealth, his job, and his old way of life when he chose to follow Jesus.*

*What are some things in your life that you might need to let go of in order to fully pursue your relationship with God?*

5.) How does the phrase 'healthy people don't need a doctor; sick people do' relate to the themes of acceptance and forgiveness in the sermon?

*This statement from Jesus in the sermon reflects the idea that Jesus came to reach those who recognize their need for help, just like Matthew did.*

*How can you create a space in your life where those who feel 'sick' or in need can find acceptance and support?*