

## Jesus Came to Call Sinners

Mark 2:1-17  
Key Verse 17

*“On hearing this, Jesus said to them, ‘It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.’”*

Two things: the gift of God, and that she needed and wanted this living water. The second thing is that her thirst cannot satisfy her, and that worshipping God would satisfy. This is only possible through Jesus the Messiah, who can save her.

### JESUS HEALS A PARALYTIC (1-12)

1. What was Jesus doing when the four men brought a paralytic to him? (1-2) How did these men overcome obstacles to get to Jesus? (3-4) How did Jesus interpret their unconventional and somewhat destructive entrance? (5a)
  - Teaching and preaching to crowds. Not mainly 1:1, but through crowds. This seemingly impersonal approach is actually similar to us reading his words today. He is looking for a response.
  - They faith of these men is the response Jesus is looking for in us. Come to Jesus, overcoming many obstacles in order to come to Jesus. So should our Bible student.
2. What did Jesus say to the paralytic? (5b) What does it mean that he called him “son”? What do Jesus’ words suggest about the man’s real problem? How is paralysis like sin? In what respect might he be called a sinner?
  - Your sins are forgiven.
  - He took responsibility immediately, and loved him, and cared for him. Jesus was not burdened. Receives him just as he is.
  - More than any outward bondage, the sin in his heart was what really crippled him. Jesus knows us the best, and he clearly states this, as he knew Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman.
  - Incurable, in bondage, everyday.
  - Broken relationship with God.
3. What did the teachers of the law think about Jesus’ words? (6-7) What does Jesus’ response show about him? (8-10) How did Jesus prove himself to be the one who has authority to forgive sins? (10-12a) How did the people respond? (12b)

### JESUS CALLS LEVI THE TAX COLLECTOR (13-17)

4. What did Jesus do once again beside the lake? (13) Who was Levi? (14a) What kind of life did he have? (Lk 3:12-13; 19:2,7) What did he have in common with the paralytic?
5. How did Jesus call Levi? (14b) How did Levi respond to Jesus’ invitation? Why did he follow Jesus so readily? (14c) What did Jesus’ words, “Follow me,” mean practically to him?
  - Follow me.
  - He immediately left everything.
  - There was evidence of faith, a desire to live with Jesus, not himself. Trust in Jesus’ love for him.

- He believed in Jesus' love and wanted to follow him and be changed. Leave everything.
6. How did Levi celebrate his new life? (15) Why did the Pharisees criticize Jesus? (16) How did Jesus' attitude toward sinners and tax collectors differ from that of the Pharisees? (17)
  7. Read verse 17. Who does Jesus say needs a doctor? What is the purpose of Jesus' coming into this world? (Jn 3:17) What does this mean to you?
    - He came to call them. He has authority to heal the sick, forgive the sinners, and call them to a new life.