



# Daily Reflections

**July 6, 2018**

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## Scripture

**Matthew 9: 9-13**

As Jesus passed by,

he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the customs post.

He said to him, "Follow me."

And he got up and followed him.

While he was at table in his house,

many tax collectors and sinners came

and sat with Jesus and his disciples.

The Pharisees saw this and said to his disciples,

"Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

He heard this and said,

"Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do.

Go and learn the meaning of the words,

I desire mercy, not sacrifice.

I did not come to call the righteous but sinners

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

By dining at the home of the very humble and grateful former tax collector, Matthew, Jesus was able to draw out the filth that was hidden deeply in the hearts of the religious leaders who were in attendance. Had they, like Matthew, not experienced the mercy of God? Had they not tasted the sweetness of God's forgiveness for their darkest sins? In their case, forgiveness did not evoke gratitude for what Jesus did for Matthew. Their hearts and minds were pitifully small.

Food for your Journey

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## **Food for your Journey**

Someone confessed the problem he was having in getting people to forget his personal problems: "It's hard to bury your past when everybody's got a shovel."

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Precious Lord, For those times when You forgave me, an unworthy sinner, I am both grateful and humbled. Help me, Lord, to extend Your mercy to those who have caused harm to me. Amen