SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY · STUDY SHEET

Movement I · The Table

Called to the Same Table

The series question: "*And who is my neighbor?*" (Luke 10:29)

MATTHEW 9:9 And passing from there, Jesus saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, Follow Me. And rising up, he followed Him.

LUKE 6:13 And when it became day, He called His disciples, also choosing out twelve from them, whom He also named apostles:

14 Simon, whom He also named Peter; and his brother Andrew; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew;

15 Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alpheus, and Simon, the one being called Zealot;

16 Judas brother of James; and Judas Iscariot, who also became the one giving Him over.

READ ALONG: Luke 10:25–29; Matthew 9:9; Luke 6:13–16; Matthew 10:2–4; Mark 3:13–19; Acts 1:13–14

Follow along

1. In Matthew 9:9, what does Jesus say to Matthew, and what does Matthew do? What does the text leave out that you might have expected?

2. Why do you think the Gospel that bears Matthew's name keeps the label *the tax-collector* on him when the other lists drop it?

3. What do you think it cost Simon to share a table with someone like Matthew, and what might it have cost Matthew?

4. What labels follow people in our time the way *tax collector* and *Zealot* followed these two men?

5. What is something you once treated as a dividing line that you now hold more loosely? What changed?

6. Acts 1:14 says they prayed *with one mind*. What would have to be true of a group like ours for that sentence to be written about us?

Leave them with

THE ONE QUESTION

Who would you never sit beside?

1. Who have I already decided about?
2. What label would I want left off my name?
3. What would it take for me to sit next to them for one meal?

> **The empty chair.** Every week one chair at our table stays empty. It is for the person you would never invite.

Notes