



## SDG Discussion Guide

Luke 5:27-32

September 1, 2019

For Starters:

What are some of the things that eating a meal with someone implies?

Who are some people you would not want to eat with, and why?

How are reputations formed, and ruined?

Guidelines: The following is meant to provide an approach for further interaction with the respective sermon text and *surrounding passage*. Feel free to forward to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find this write up in print on that Sunday.

First, as you can, read aloud the selected passage in your group. If you have time, read it aloud a second time - from a different Bible translation. If you have time, read it aloud a third time - from an even different Bible translation.

Before you begin your discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text together and prayed, what points and questions arise from your group? **Spend plenty of time in your group to address these points and questions.** Explore and see how God may give guidance in the discussion. The following are further questions you may use to guide your interaction with the text.

1. Why are we told that Levi is a tax collector?
2. How were tax collectors regarded in the time of Jesus?
3. How did the religious community respond to Jesus eating with Levi?
4. What is the importance of the response Jesus gave to the condemnation?
5. Why was it a problem that Jesus ate with "tax collectors and sinners"?
6. What is the significance for us of Jesus' response to the criticism?
7. What would be an equivalent situation in our world?
8. How has the Christian community valued reputation over reaching out to the outcasts of our societies?
9. What are some ways in which you have been swayed to prioritize what people think of you over what you believe God wants you to do?
10. How has this passage challenged you to risk condemnation for the Gospel?

***Give us the courage and strength to risk the condemnation and censure of those around us to pursue your Gospel that welcomes everyone to Your table.***