

FOLLOW UP LESSONS

Matthew 9:9–10 (NKJV)

We often contend for key converts to open up doors for more people to be reached. One of the ways we identify a key person is through follow up. A new convert may not be able to see their own potential for impact, but as you follow up its amazing how doors can begin to open. In our passage Jesus calls one, who introduces Him to more! And this happens through FOLLOW UP-

Matthew 9:9–10 (NKJV) As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, “Follow Me.” So he arose and followed Him. 10 Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house, that behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples.

I LABORING FOR ONE

A- Our passage is a reminder that sometimes we labor for the one.

1. Jesus is ministering to crowds, healing the sick, and then he focuses on the one
 - a. **Matthew 9:9** As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, “Follow Me.”
2. As much as we love to reach many; a people group, a team, a college group, a job group
 - a. We also need to see the value and rejoice in the one-
 - i. **Luke 15:7** I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

B- So it is important that we see the potential of ONE... not despise it.

1. Some despise it because of Pride: Who will notice me if I just reach one? Who will be excited for just one?
2. Some despise because of Misunderstanding: I want revival! Not just one! (Revival could come from one: PWM)
3. Some despise because of Lack: Barrenness can really twist a person, they overlook the one because they want more!
4. Jesus shows us the Value of One: Matthew who would become a disciple, an apostle, and write this Gospel-

II FOLLOW UP OPPORTUNITIES:

A- Not only does Jesus show us the value of one, he shows us the value of Follow Up-

1. The very next verse Jesus is at a table with Matthew... Making the most of an opportunity for relationship
2. That is the **highlight** of Follow up: **RELATIONSHIP**
 - a. In Matthew, Mark, Luke: They all say He just ate with him... no correction, no teachings, no questioning...
 - b. Jesus simply took an opportunity to follow up with a new convert.

B- So why would someone miss this opportunity?

1. B/c Follow up takes Time: This will require extra attention and time, it must be intentional! Jesus was intentional
2. B/c Follow up takes Skill: People Skills: Some feel *I am not good at it...* you have to start somewhere!
3. B/c Follow up takes Investment: Some think you need to make a 5 course 5 star meal...
 - a. Keep it simple... Its more about making contact, showing yourself friendly, building relationship-

III OPPORTUNITY FOR MORE:

A- The highlight of this passage is that one follow up meal leads to more opportunity with people that Matthew was connected to-

1. **Matthew 9:10** Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house, that behold, **many** tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples.
 - a. **Many** tax collectors and many sinners... People that the one was connected to, he brought others to Jesus.
2. This is a very valuable lesson: One can open opportunity for many!
 - a. The N/C might not see it fully or understand fully what they're doing... but as you show yourself friendly, interested, compassionate they will connect you to more!
 - b. This could be their family, friend group, team,

B- So what is the snapshot of your follow up ministry?

1. How are you serving new converts in Follow up? How are you serving the one?
2. Do you see the opportunities before you? Are you building bridges with those around you?
3. Do you have a genuine heart for it?