**The Call of Levi/Matthew**

(Mt. 9:9; Mark 2:13-14; Luke 5:27-28}

Mark 2:13-14 with Mt. 9.9 and Luke 5:28 Once again Jesus went out beside the lake. A large crowd came to him, and he began to teach them. As he walked along, he was Levi {Matthew MT} son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector’s booth. “Follow me,” Jesus told him, and Levi got up, [left everything LK] and followed him.

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**A Banquet at Matthew’s House**

(Mt. 9:10-13; Mark 2:15-17; Luke 5:29-32)

Luke 5:29-30 with Mt 9:10-11, Mark 2:15 Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and other {“sinner” MT, MK} were eating with them, {for there were many who followed him. MK} But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, “Why do you {your teacher MT} eat and drink with tax collectors and ‘sinners’?”

Mark 2:17 On hearing this, Jesus said to them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sic. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Matthew 9:13 But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ {{Hosea 6:6}} For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Mark 2:18-20 with Mt. 9.14-15 and Luke 5:33 Now John’s disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people {John’s disciples MT} came and asked Jesus, “How is it that John’s disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees {often fast and pray LK} are fasting, but yours are not {[They] go on eating and drinking LK}”

Jesus answered, “How can the guests of the bridegroom fast {mourn MT} while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast.”

**A Parable**

Luke 5:36-39 with Mt 9:16, Mark 2:21 He told them this parable: “No one tears a patch from a new garment and sews it on an old one. If he does, he will have torn the new garment, {the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse, MO,MK} and the patch from the new will not match the old. And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins, the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins. And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for he says, ‘The old is better.’”