



## The People With Whom Jesus Spent Time.

May 15, 2022

*"You know a lot about a person by the company they keep."*

### Jesus spent time with anybody.

Jesus entered Jericho and made his way through the town. There was a man there named Zacchaeus. He was the chief tax collector in the region, and he had become very rich...When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. "Zacchaeus!" he said. "Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today." But the people were displeased. "He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner," they grumbled. Luke 19:1-6 (NLT)

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so Jesus went to his home and sat down to eat. Luke 7:43 (NLT)

Large crowds followed Jesus as he came down the mountainside. Suddenly, a man with leprosy approached him and knelt before him. "Lord," the man said, "if you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean." Jesus reached out and touched him. "I am willing," he said. "Be healed!" And instantly the leprosy disappeared. Matthew 8:1-3

Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. But when the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with such scum?" When Jesus heard this, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do." For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners." Matthew 9:9-13 (NLT)

Jesus said, "I came to this world to judge, so that the blind should see and those who see should become blind." Some Pharisees who were there with him heard him say this and asked him, "Surely you don't mean that we are blind, too?" Jesus answered, "If you were blind, then you would not be guilty; but since you claim that you can see, this means that your guilt remains." John 9:35-41 (GNT)

"For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners." Matthew 9:9-13 (NLT)

## To the one who has no need, Jesus has no message.

"...What gives life is God's Spirit; human power is of no use at all. The words I have spoken to you bring God's life-giving Spirit. Yet some of you do not believe." Because of this, many of Jesus' followers turned back and would not go with him any more.

So he asked the twelve disciples, "And you—would you also like to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life. And now we believe and know that you are the Holy One who has come from God." John 6

"What should I do with Jesus who is called the Christ?" Matthew 27:22

"I chose a valuable stone, which I am placing as the cornerstone and whoever believes in him will never be disappointed. This stone is of great value for you that believe. But for those who do not believe: "The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all. This is the stone that will make people stumble, the rock that will make them fall." 1Peter 2:6-9 (GNT)

### Talk it Over! For my thoughts and LifeGroup\*

Jesus is a controversial figure and people have all kinds of thoughts about him. What opinions have you heard regarding Jesus?

Do you think Jesus treated people differently? Why or why not? What things dictated the way people reacted to Jesus and His words?

Read John 8:31-59 (It's long but worth it). To whom was Jesus talking? (vs. 31). What happens between vs. 31 and 59? What is the challenge Jesus presents? Is this a challenge to you?

1 Peter 2:6-9 is a great passage that talks about Jesus. Read it and discuss...  
Why do you think Peter chooses the concept of "stone" in describing Jesus?  
How does this imagery fit well into how people view Jesus? How is Jesus a "stumbling block" to people? Was He ever to you? How did you overcome it.

Close your LifeGroup by praying with each other.

\*A LifeGroup is a group of people who are committed to loving each other and growing through the ups and downs of life. For more information, connect with the church, marinerschurch@marinerscc.org