

FOLLOW

Matthew 9:9-13

The Christian faith is a relationship
with a living Saviour.

The tragedy is....

Pursing a 'to do' list, the Christian life
becomes performance based.

Jesus' Invitation to Matthew the Tax Collector

Jewish tax collectors were the most despised group among the Jews.

Being taxed was a constant reminder of Roman oppression.

Jesus' Invitation to Matthew the Tax Collector

Why did Matthew seemingly without hesitation just get up and follow Jesus?

He was finally accepted!

The Pharisees Complaint against Jesus

The Pharisee's complaint was that Jesus was spending time with sinners.

But Jesus was about restoring relationships and offering mercy, not maintaining rituals.

Three things we learn about Jesus' invitation to follow Him

Jesus' invitation is extended to sinners.

Jesus' invitation is an invitation to a relationship with Him.

Jesus' invitation forces us to focus on where *we* are along the journey and not on others.

Conclusion

The question is not, *“How far along are we along the journey?”*

But rather, *“Are we still passionately following Jesus?”*

Conclusion

Following Jesus will cost us something.

Refusing to follow Him will cost us a whole lot more!