

EASY BIBLE LESSONS

The Qualities of Good Disciples

Luke 5:27-39

27 After this Jesus went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." 28 And he got up, left everything, and followed him.

29 Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house; and there was a large crowd of tax collectors and others sitting at the table with them. 30 The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" 31 Jesus answered, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; 32 I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance."

33 Then they said to him, "John's disciples, like the disciples of the Pharisees, frequently fast and pray, but your disciples eat and drink." 34 Jesus said to them, "You cannot make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you? 35 The days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days." 36 He also told them a parable: "No one tears a piece from a new garment and sews it on an old garment; otherwise the new will be torn, and the piece from the new will not match the old. 37 And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. 38 But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. 39 And no one after drinking old wine desires new wine, but says, 'The old is good.'" — NRSV

BIBLE QUESTIONS FOR THINKING PEOPLE

Levi was probably another name that was given to Matthew. What qualities would a tax collector have that might make him a good writer of The Gospel According to Matthew?

What one or more qualities do you have that Jesus could use as a disciple of His? How are you using these qualities?

Levi immediately invited others to his house to meet Jesus. Begin praying today for the Lord to help you introduce someone to Jesus. How do you think you could do this?

What reason does Jesus give for eating with sinners? Jesus does not sin while He is with them, but what does Jesus expect them to do when they are with Him?

Can you think of some times when some in the early church fasted (in the Book of Acts—look up "fast" and "fasting" in a concordance or Bible Dictionary)? Are there any reasons to fast today?