

[There are many roads to Me but only one where I come and dwell in you]

Matthew 9:9-12

- 9 As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax office; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him.
- 10 And as he sat at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Jesus and his disciples.
- 11 And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"
- 12 But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.

A mother, or father cannot be in two places at once. They only have the ability and time to really focus on one child at a time. Usually that child is the one in trouble, the one hurting, or the one sick... the lost sheep so to speak. The rest of the children are left longing for that undivided attention of their parent. So too it must have been with Jesus. Even though He is God, He was limited by the same time and space constraints as we are. And so He had to tend the most needy. In doing so, look what happened. By bringing one needy soul to the table, many more were made brave enough to approach Jesus. To sit, listen, and experience the love of God. It is easy to tend the well among us. Many times it challenges us tending those on the fringe. There is often times frustration, feeling useless, and feeling used up. Remember, there are always those on the periphery watching. Your witness may give them the courage to approach the table of God. Jesus knew His own limitations in His human form. "But I tell you the truth, it is better for you that I go. For if I do not go, the advocate will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you" (John 16:7) Jesus saw each of us. Jesus saw the need of every child of God for their Father. Jesus is within each of us through baptism. The Holy Spirit lives within us and we have a seat at the table, a listening ear, and a Father's undivided attention. We can have the strength, courage, and fortitude to be God's physician to others because we have God. Amen.