

- A Core Thought
  - "People matter to God."
- US and THEM
- *"As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth." (Matthew 9:9a)*
- *"Follow me." (Matthew 9:9b)*
- *"...Matthew got up and followed him." (Matthew 9:9c)*
- *"While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples." (Matthew 9:10)*
- *"When the Pharisees saw this, they asked the disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?' On hearing this Jesus said, 'It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.'" (Matthew 9:10-11)*
- *"Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, 'This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.'" (Luke 15:1-2)*
- 3 Stories
  - The Parable of the Lost Sheep
  - The Parable of the Lost Coin
  - The Parable of the Lost Son
- When You've Lost Something You Love
- The Cross
- "There must always be an invitation connected with our faith journey."
- A Lesson from Matthew
- "God, how can I be more of a Matthew?"
- *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)*