

Text: Mark 2:13-17; Acts 1:1-2; 10:28, 34; 11:1-3

The Nature of Jesus' Ministry

- The nature of Jesus ministry was to break _____ and _____ norms.

- The nature of Jesus' ministry is to befriend the _____, _____, and _____.

The Continuation of Jesus' Ministry

- For the Lord's legacy to advance, _____ must be challenged.

- The continuation of Jesus' ministry is initiated by _____.

The Process of Continuation

- First, we must welcome God's _____.

- Second, we must recognize the _____ power of the gospel.

- Finally, we must courageously confront _____ and accept _____.

Life Enrichment

What about today's teaching challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- Who has left a legacy that you would not want to try and live up to? Why?
- Whose legacy has affected your life most? Why?
- How does American Christianity compare with first century Judaism? Which people groups do we shun? In what ways do we assume friendship with sinners defiles us?
- How does shunning or separating from sinners impact our mission?
- Considering Jesus' example, how should Christians relate to "outcasts" and "undesirables"?
- What do you think it means to eat with sinners and to be a friend of sinners? How does Peter's ministry in Acts 10 exemplify these principles?
- What religious traditions need to be challenged in your life to become a friend of sinners?
- What role does the Holy Spirit play in reshaping our thinking toward the not yet redeemed?
- What types of cultural barriers does the gospel destroy?
- What kind of reactions should we expect from the church and culture when we strive to befriend sinners like Jesus did?