



KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING TEACHING SUPPLEMENT

2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY, JUNE 11TH, 2023

BIBLE LESSONS:

MATT. 9:9-13

HOS. 5:15-6:6

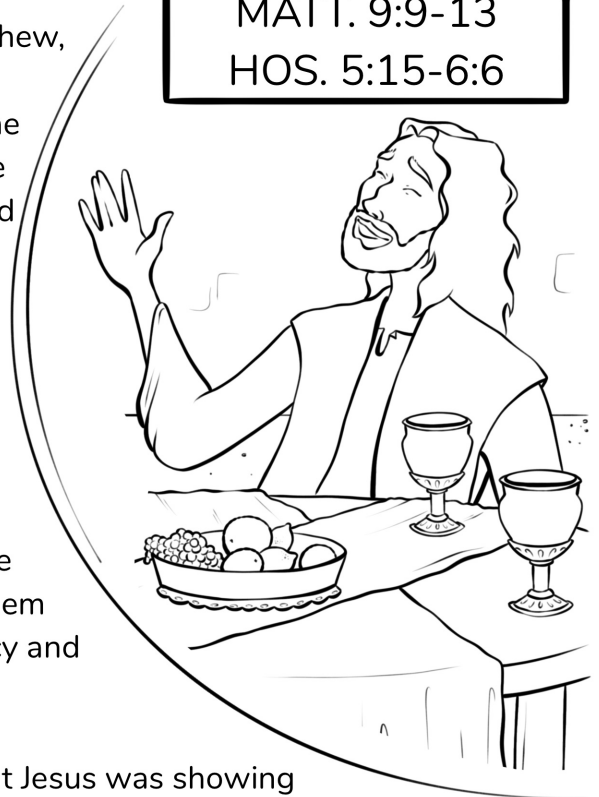
For some people, when we hear today's verse in Matthew, it may bring to mind times when it has been hijacked or taken out of context. People don't want to miss out on the love and comfort that Jesus has for all people, but we are sinners, and it is also tempting to twist things and try and make Jesus fit into our lives the way we want Him to.

Jesus' love is definitely for all people, but the truth about repentance can be hard to hear when you are deeply entrenched in a life that God doesn't want for us.

When Jesus called Matthew to follow Him, and then spent time talking and eating with other tax collectors He wasn't conforming to their ways but was encouraging them to stop their dishonesty and hear the good news of mercy and salvation.

The Pharisees had trouble understanding the love that Jesus was showing to men who were known to take advantage of their position and steal from people. He instructed the Pharisees to go back and read what they bragged about knowing- that He did not need sacrifices and false righteousness but repentance and mercy.

Today's Old Testament lesson from Hosea would be a good review for those Pharisees, and for any of us who believes we are sufficient on our own merit. Hosea reminds the people of Israel of God's desire for steadfast love even when offering sacrifices. Since Jesus came to be God's sacrifice for us, God's desire is for steadfast love for our neighbour as we serve Him. We can find guidance for that type of steadfastness in the beginning of each of the meanings for the Ten Commandments; "We should fear and love God..."



Prayer

Let us pray together: Lord, thank You for sending Jesus to be the sacrifice for us, and for providing for all our needs. Remind us of how Jesus loved His neighbours and taught them about your mercy when they were truly sorry for their sins. Help us to love our neighbours too, and to live lives that honour You. In the name of Jesus our Saviour we pray. Amen.