

# MEALS WITH JESUS

New Life  
CHURCH CRAWLEY





Who would  
you invite to  
your party?

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





Sin is when we say...  
Shove off God,  
I'm in charge,  
No to your rules.

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





THE SAYING GOES  
“YOU ARE WHAT  
YOU EAT”

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





# WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM THE CALLING OF LEVI? (Matthew)

FOLLOWING JESUS MEANS  
OTHERS MIGHT BE  
AMAZED (LUKE 5:26)

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





# What did Jesus see in Matthew?

Jesus loved, forgave and  
called someone totally  
undeserving.

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





# HOW DO WE SEE THIS IN ACTION?

- Jewish writings describes tax collectors as “robbers” and that if a tax collector entered a Jewish home, it would become unclean.
- Considered traitors even aligned with “the mob”, organized crime
- Tax collectors were not allowed to serve as witnesses in a court

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





# HOW DO WE SEE THIS IN ACTION?

- There was no limit to the amount of money they could collect.
- Tax collectors were notorious for making themselves wealthy by cheating their own suffering people.

**But Jesus called him!**

Levi knew his need: he wasn't good, he wasn't welcome, he wasn't clean.

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





# HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO US?

- What did Jesus see in you when he called you? 1 Cor 1:26-30
- Are there some "Matthew's" around us that Jesus wants us to bring to him?
- Evangelism outreach weekend on 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





- FOLLOWING JESUS MEANS OTHERS MIGHT BE AMAZED (LUKE 5:26)
- FOLLOWING JESUS MEANS BEING AWARE OF THE COST (LUKE 5:28-29)

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





Matthew left the tax booth, his employees, and the money. How many of us would walk away from our jobs in order to follow Jesus? Would you?

- He saw a man who was teachable and would some day be a great apostle for the Kingdom of God.
- He saw a man who some day would die as a martyr in Ethiopia for Him.

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





God can use anyone who is willing to be used by God but there is a key requirement - we must be willing to leave everything!

*Luke 9:23 "Then he said to the crowd, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me."*

*Matthew 8:18-22, Matthew 10:37,  
Luke 14:25-33*

MEALS  
WITH JESUS

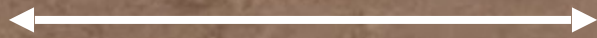




- FOLLOWING JESUS MEANS OTHERS MIGHT BE AMAZED (LUKE 5:26)



- FOLLOWING JESUS MEANS BEING AWARE OF THE COST (LUKE 5:28-29)



- FOLLOWING JESUS MEANS RESPONDING TO HIS MESSAGE (LUKE 5:32)

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





The message of Jesus was one of grace. The “scandal of grace” Pauls says the Good News was hard to grasp by our own wisdom:

**1 Cor 1:23** *“So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it’s all nonsense.”*

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





- **Luke 5:30** Scribes and Pharisees were “grumbling” because Jesus was eating with the tax collectors and “sinners.”
- **Luke 5:31-32** Jesus explained his mission. It’s the sick who need a doctor not the healthy!
- **Matthew 5:3** “Blessed are the poor in spirit..”

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





God blesses those  
who are poor and  
realize their need  
for him, for the  
Kingdom of  
Heaven is theirs.

Matthew 5:3 (NLT)



MEALS  
WITH JESUS





BUT grace is not a license to live how anyway you want because you think God is only warm and cuddly. He is a loving Heavenly Father but also a holy and just judge.

## Titus 2:11-12

*“For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people. And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, grace of God teaches us to say no to ungodliness.”*

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





# THE DEVIL DIDN'T MAKE YOU DO IT - IT 'S OUR OWN EVIL DESIRES!

James 1:13-25

*"And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, "God is tempting me." God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else. Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death."*

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





You can't keep doing  
what you want to do,  
you can't keep living  
the way you want to  
and get close to God at  
the same time.

MEALS  
WITH JESUS







NewLife  
CHURCH CRAWLEY

Starts 2<sup>nd</sup> week of  
May – signup for a  
group

**FINDING  
YOUR  
SPIRITUAL  
FREEDOM**



## QUESTIONS FOR MIDWEEK PERSONAL REFLECTION & STUDY Luke 5

1. What does this story say about Jesus or God?
2. What does this story say about the people?
3. What do you like about this story?
4. What are the sins to avoid in this story? What are the promises to claim in this story?
5. What are the examples to follow in this story?  
What are the commands to obey in this story?
6. Who do you identify with in this story? Why?
7. What will you do because of this story?
8. How can you share this story with someone this week?

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





# CONCLUSION:

Message of repentance has been repeated theme in last 3 weeks:

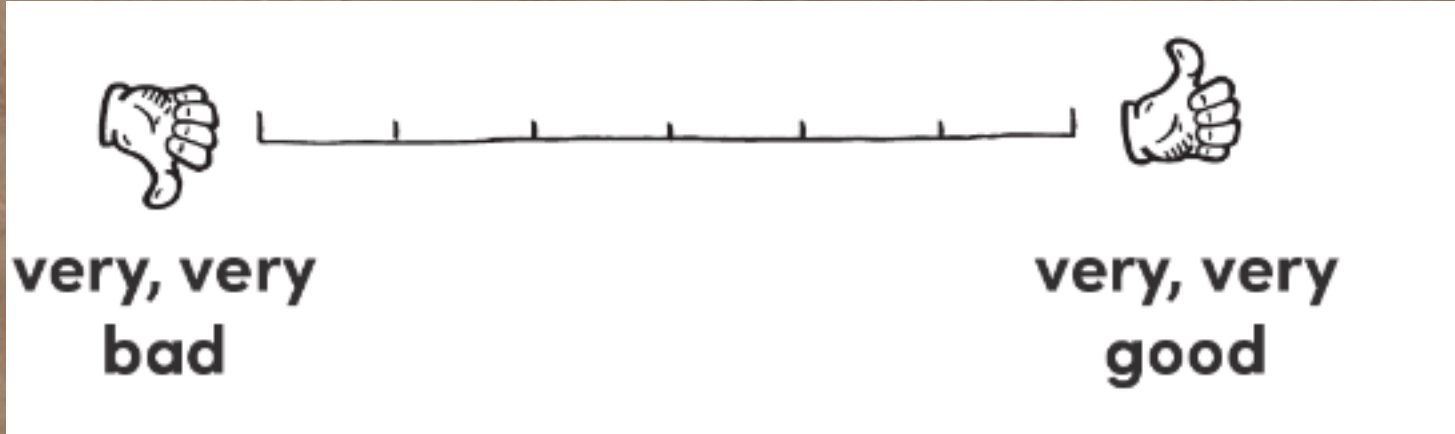
- **REPENT OF INDIFFERENCE**  
*towards outsiders*
- **REPENT OF PREJUDICE**  
*towards other people groups or individuals, bigotry, hatred*

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





Think of people you know who fit on a scale  
of very, very bad to very, very good



How does Jesus change how you think  
and feel about those people?

MEALS  
WITH JESUS





Jesus.

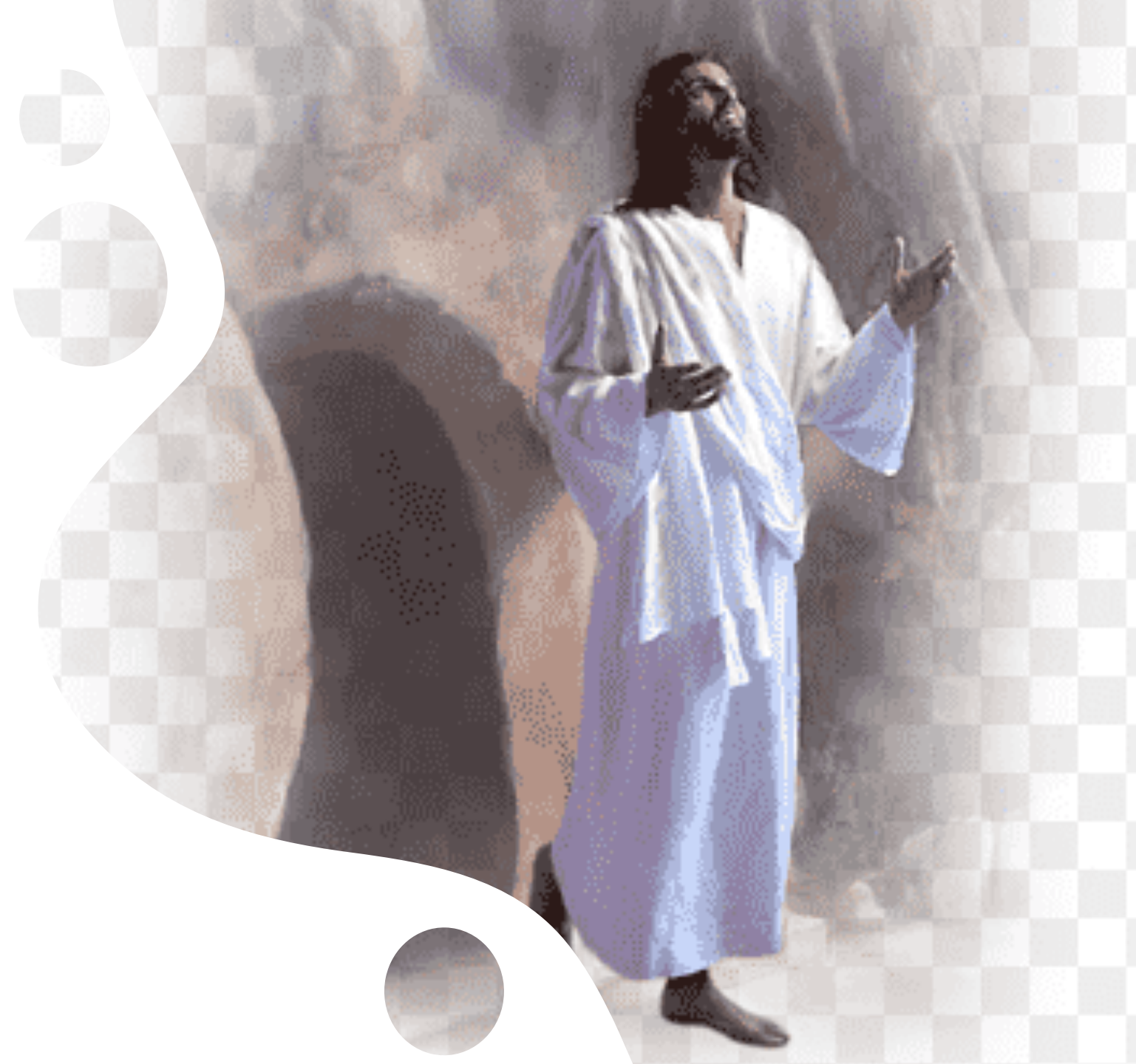
His name is a complete sentence.

His name is an entire prayer.

His name alone brings healing.

His name guarantees salvation.

His name quenches the thirsty soul and fills the soul's hunger.





Jesus.

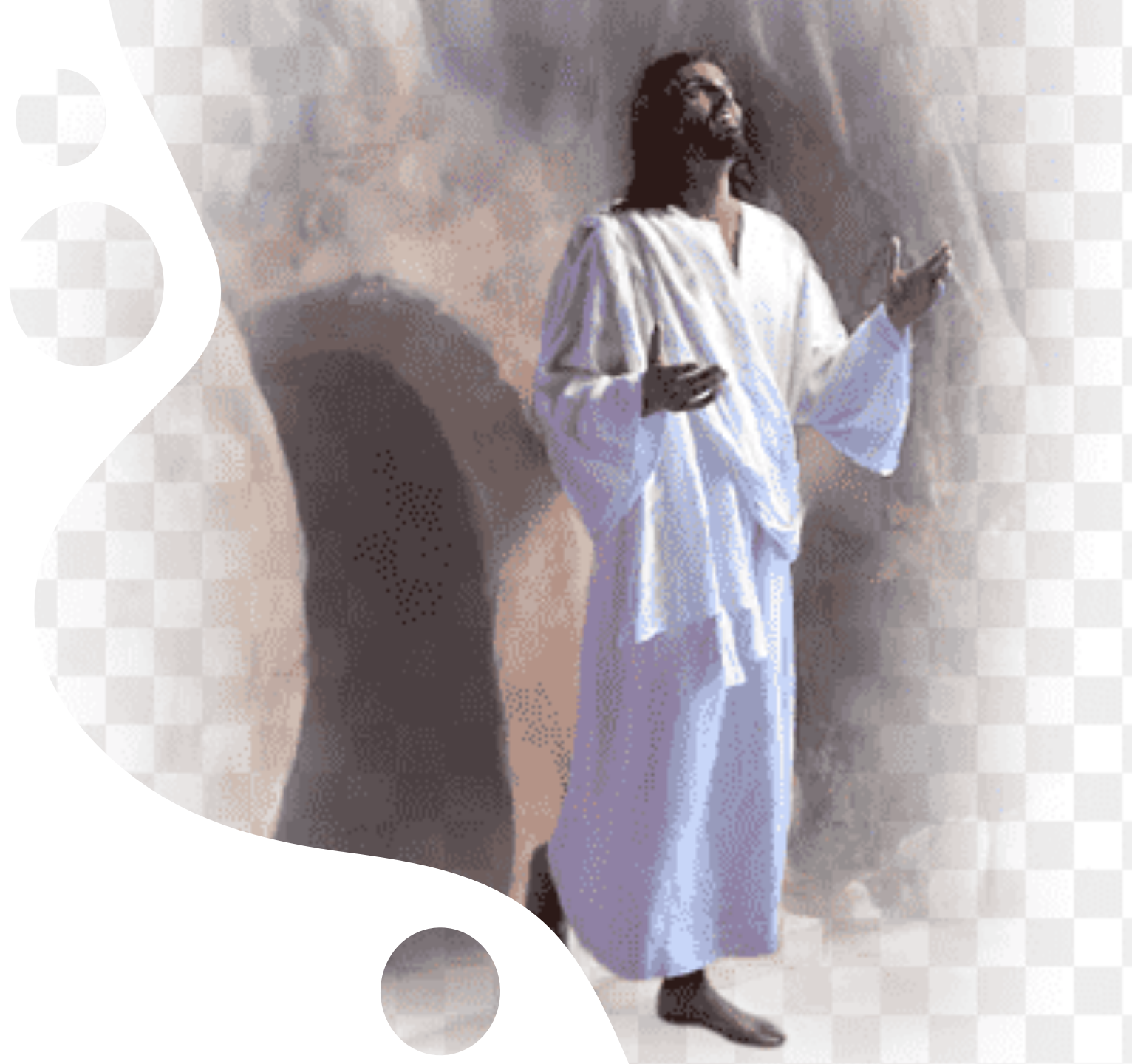
His name is the perfect  
solution to every problem.

His name can resolve  
conflict.

He brings peace and  
calm into every situation.

His name is protection.

His name brings light  
when darkness is all  
around





Jesus.

His name is music, it is the  
sweetest melody.

His name is joy  
unspeakable.

His name is perfect

His name is altogether  
lovely, magnificent, glorious.

His name is Emmanuel, He  
is God with us.

Amen

