



When it comes to understanding why Jesus came, we don't have to put words in his mouth. He made a number of very clear statements about the subject. So this series will explore the reasons behind the greatest mission ever.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 Rick began by reminding us that when Jesus comes a second time there will be no doubt that he is the King but when he came the first time there was a lot of uncertainty. What was the primary reason for this uncertainty among the religious leaders in Jesus' day? Is this still a problem for us today? Explain.

2 **Read Mark 2:13-16.** Why was Levi a surprising choice for Jesus to call? What does Jesus' calling of Levi show us about His character and His mission? Follow up discussion: Have you ever developed an "unlikely friendship" with someone religious people would call "sinners"? How did that experience impact how others viewed you?

3 The religious leaders asked Jesus' disciples, "Why does he eat with such scum?" What disturbs you most about their reaction? Have you ever found yourself thinking similar thoughts about other people?

4 **JESUS CAME for sinners. Read Mark 2:17.** Rick pointed out that "Jesus came to bring a different kind of kingdom, because he intended to bring a different kind of people into it. The most amazing thing about this kingdom is that the one condition for entering it is admitting you are not fit for it." Why are Jesus words in verse 17 offensive to both secular and religious people?

5 Rick also mentioned that "One thing this text reveals is that Jesus did not come to change God's mind about us, but to change our minds about God." What is significant about that statement? Share an example of how your relationship with Jesus has changed your mind about God.

6 **JESUS CAME... He saw patients.** Jesus didn't see people as problems; he saw people with problems. He did not practice "separation for fear of contamination." How should that change the way you see people and how you interact with them? Follow up discussion: When have you struggled with seeing people through a "morality grid" instead of through a "redemptive lens"?

7 **JESUS CAME... He was patient.** Jesus didn't say, "Get well and start following me"; he said, "Follow me and start getting well." **Read Romans 3:10, 23.** How do these verses blow up "morality grid" theology? How can this help you become more patient with people?

8 **JESUS CAME to become sin.** The reason we can enter the kingdom is because the King himself has transferred his fitness to us. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.** What stands out to you the most from this verse? Who is one person in your life in need of a doctor like King Jesus? How can you further your relationship with him or her this week?

