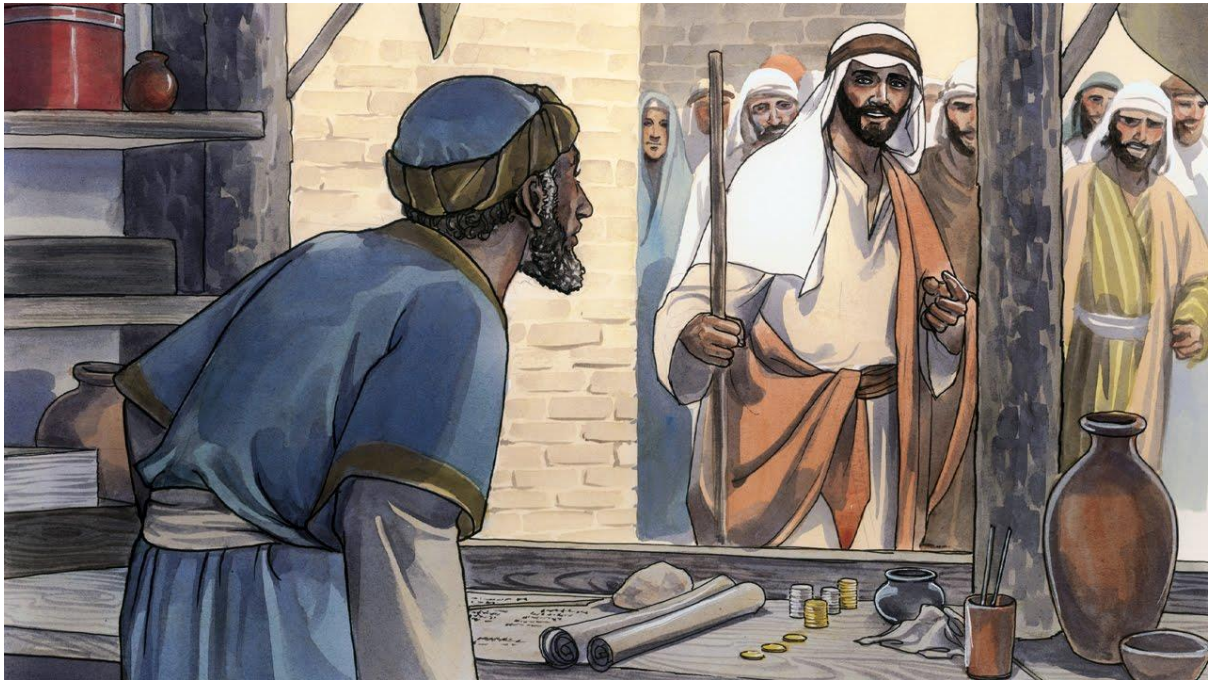


**From Matthew's Gospel in the Bible**  
**Matthew 9, verses 9-12 (International Children's Bible)**



<sup>9</sup> When Jesus was leaving, he saw a man named Matthew. Matthew was sitting in the tax office. Jesus said to him, “Follow me.” And Matthew stood up and followed Jesus.

<sup>10</sup> Jesus had dinner at Matthew's house. Many tax collectors and “sinners” came and ate with Jesus and his followers. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisees saw this and asked Jesus' followers, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and ‘sinners’?”

<sup>12</sup> Jesus heard the Pharisees ask this. So he said, “Healthy people don't need a doctor. Only the sick need a doctor. <sup>13</sup> Go and learn what this means: ‘I want faithful love more than I want animal sacrifices.’ I did not come to invite good people. I came to invite sinners.”