

Where's Your Chair?

Mark 2: 13-22



Do not withhold your compassion from me, O Lord;
let your love and your faithfulness always preserve me.
Psalm 40:12

Praising:

And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's
blood?

Died he for me, who caused his
pain;
for me; who him to death
pursued?

Amazing love! How can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die
for?

Reading:

Mark 2: 13-22

The call of Levi the tax collector

It's hard for us to get a sense of
just how major a deal it was for
Jesus to come and eat with Levi
(also known as Matthew). The
dietary and other laws really did
mean that 'religious' people like
the Pharisees and Scribes
avoided all contact with those

they regarded as unclean. Ever
since, Christians have gone out
of their way to make sure they
could never be accused of the
same excluding behaviour, doing
everything possible to identify
with the sidelined and
marginalised and to draw
alongside them. Of course
because Levi was collecting
taxes on behalf of the Romans
from his own people, they didn't
like him either. Forget the critics
though, how must Levi have felt
when Jesus announced that it
was Levi's house he wanted to
come to?

Listening:

Praying:

Lord we pray for those in our own
day who feel like outcasts:

- the homeless, those struggling
with addictions, those with
criminal convictions
- the bankrupt, the unemployed,
those living with broken
relationships
- those far from home and
foreign to our country who
struggle with culture and
language

Father: whoever I am, whatever I
have done or not done, I praise
you that even as I sit here your
Son draws beside me and
chooses my company. Amen

Doing:

Friday, 23 October 2015