



Loving you as you are;
Joining you in the journey;
Celebrating where
God is taking us.

FBCA Vision Statement (EST. 2020)

As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called **Matthew** sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And **Matthew** rose and followed him. Matthew 9:9

GROWING SPIRITUALLY

We Strive to Become More Like Jesus
through Discipleship and
Personal Growth(EST. 2020)

Matthew 9:9-13: As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him.

¹⁰ And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

Matthew 11:28: Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

John 12:26: If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

John 15:4: Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

Psalm 91:1: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

Oh, the places you'll go!

1. Embracing the Invite (redemption in Jesus)
 - A. Invitation to Rest (Matthew 11:28)
 - B. Invitation to Discipleship (John 12:26)
 - C. Invitation to Live in God's Kingdom*
(John 15:4, Psalm 91:1)
2. Three Things We Must Do On Our Journey
 - A. Sit at the feet of Jesus Together (Matt. 9:10)
 - B. Endure Oppression Together (Matt. 9:11)
 - C. Enjoy the Ride Together (Matt. 9:12,13)

*The Three Invitations of Christ (Billy Graham)

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Matthew 11:28. Read the article [How Is Jesus Our Sabbath Rest?](https://www.gotquestions.org/How-Is-Jesus-Our-Sabbath-Rest?) at [gotquestions.org](https://www.gotquestions.org). Do you have a day of "Sabbath Rest" where you decompress and spend time with God? Discuss.
2. Why do you think the Pharisees reacted the way they did to the interaction of Jesus with Matthew's friends? What do we learn from the reaction of Jesus to their question? Discuss.
3. Who is on the journey of discipleship and personal growth with you? Do you need to spend more time with each other at the feet of Jesus? If you do not have a group you meet with regularly walking through the scriptures and doing life together, take this season as we approach Easter to connect in a L.I.F.E. Group or Study. Go to [fbcatown.com](https://www.fbcatown.com) for more info on how to connect.

