Matthew 9:9-17

New Wine for a New Way

I. Slide1 Announce:
   A. Slide2-4 Landing/Celeb Place. Father-Son. Children’s Min.
   B. Slide5a Children at Risk: 3-5pm Hearing from Kristi Piatkowski (Dir of Develop) from Rancho Damacitas local ministry, sharing on ways be involved w/the kids in their organization.
      1. They provide care & compassion for abused & neglected kids/young adults.
   C. Slide5b I’m collecting Suits & Ties for Haitian pastors - on hanger, to church by May5th.
   D. Holocaust Memorial Day - May1 at Mur City Center/Town Square. Worship, prayer walk, memorial service. Speaker, Rosemary Schindler, grand-niece of Schindler. See flyer bulletin brd

II. Slide6 Intro: New Wine for a New Way
   A. Slide7a 1st I want to see how Jesus is about to Contextualize His message.
   B. Contextualize = con + texture/weave or, join by weaving.
      1. The Gospel never changes, yet it must be contextualized (or fitted) to the culture it is brought to. [the gospel never changes, but the situation & who we are sharing with...always does]
      2. Slide7b Explain Buddhism Pyramid: Nirvana/heaven/suffering
         a) In Buddhism there is no God. It’s about you attaining Enlightenment [Gautama/founder]
         b) Buddha = awakened, enlightened, one who attained Nirvana. [tera-Vah-da; ma-Ha-ya-na]
            (1) Move up towards Nirvana, be free from emotions. Have less desires.
            (2) The goal is no desire or emotions at all. Not pleasure nor sufferings.
         c) Now imagine evangelizing a Buddhist. Jesus died for you (suffering? 4 Noble truths: avoid/overcome) Would you like to go to Heaven? (1/2 way?) Would you like eternal life? (no I want it to end?) Jesus Loves you! (oh? love is a desire, I’m try to rid myself of?)
         d) So, where do you start with a Buddhist? Maybe w/compassion.
            (1) Their understanding of compassion includes qualities of sharing, readiness to give comfort, sympathy, concern, caring. [sync <--- sect]
D. Sectarianism *(apart)*. Separate from the Culture. Religion/church above the Gospel. Fear?...we’ll be contaminated. Example Pharisees. Hyper-conservative church today.

1. Here Jesus steers this situation well with both the sinners & the religious guys.

III. Slide8 MATTHEW’S MAKEOVER *(9)* or Jesus at the IRS

A. A man named Matthew - He doesn’t write much concerning himself.

1. Luke adds that he *left all* to follow Jesus.(5:28). [Mt wasn’t going to be the hero of his own stories]
2. Pr 27:2 *Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; someone else, and not your own lips.*

B. It’s amazing who Jesus would pick to win Jews to Himself.

1. If his name was Levi *(what tribe from? purpose?)*. So here Jesus picks a *prodigal priest* that became *Rome’s IRS agent* to win *Jews for Jesus*...nice!
2. Slide9 So Matthew works the local tax office in Capernaum. Catching all the merchants traveling N/S on *the Via Maris/the way of the Sea 4:15 &* the local fishermen bringing back their Tilapia catch out of Galilee. *Mile Marker* found in Capernaum Matthew stood next to, to collect taxes *(found in Capernaum).*

C. Matthew had a *deeply religious upbringing* though...he knew his O.T.

1. Matthew not only quotes more than any of the other gospel writers but more than *all 3 combined*. No less than 99 direct references to the O.T. Scriptures.
2. He also quotes from every division of it: from the Torah *(law)*, the Nevi'im *(prophets)*, & the Ketuvim *(the writings)*. [i.e. the TaNaKh]

D. Matthew was called from a business of taking to a business of giving.

E. Slide10 Follow me - sharp, decisive, & authoritative.

1. Yes, this was a command but it was also bursting w/an offering of *fellowship & friendship*...with Jesus.
2. **Submission** undoubtedly was demanded, but **fellowship** was offered.

F. Talk about *a short sweet testimony* the Shepherd whistled...I heard his voice...& followed.

1. *Lord, let my obedience be like the echo of your voice.*

IV. Slide11 DINING WITH THE DEPRAVED *(10-13)*
A. Having been called, & having obeyed, he, w/equal promptness began to gather a group of his own calling to meet Jesus. Who is in your sphere?

B. Slide12 How evident it is that Matthew had already discovered the straight highway into the heart of Jesus.
   1. He knew that Jesus’ heart was set upon the depraved & degraded.
   2. It seems that when our old life was so fresh to us, that’s who we reached out to - but now we seem to search out those who’ll fit in with our group, who’ll fit well into our Christian Cathedrals.

C. Slide13a Matthew knew they wouldn’t come to a sermon but they would a supper, so he puts on, as Luke calls it, a great feast (5:29). Maybe a 3-Fold Feast:
   1. Slide13b A Jubilee Feast – to commemorate his translation into a new life.
   2. A Farewell Feast – A public confession of surrender to the call of Christ.
   3. A Evangelistic Feast - invites some of his business associates to meet Jesus.

D. Sinners came - How did he advertise that? Sinners came - by occupation & by Character.
   1. Now, by being with sinners, Jesus does not approve or condone or turn a blind eye to their behavior. But Interesting...the sinners were comfortable w/Jesus Slide13c while the religious crowd were not. - Are sinners comfortable w/you?
   2. We need more Matthew Parties. [when was the last time you had one? will you? or are sinners not welcome in your holy home any more?]

E. Slide14 Judging Jesus (11) Now the Pharisee’s have a handy stone to throw at Jesus...He eats w/sinners.
   1. Chickens...they wouldn’t ask Jesus....they go to his disciples.
   2. Note those who share a table with Jesus are those who are sick and in need of healing. While those who don’t, take comfort in their own rt & neither see nor will admit their particular kind of sin, & its subsequent need of healing.

F. Slide15a (12) Jesus answer superb. Where should a doctor be...but among the sick. pic :) 
   1. When you’re found in the midst of sinners, are you seeking to bring healing & wholeness to them spiritually or allowing yourself to be infected w/their disease?
   2. I think this sums up Jesus’ whole ministry...as Doctor Jesus.
      a) Slide15b Doctor Jesus...our Diagnostician, knowing the nature of our disease.
b) **Doctor Jesus**...our *Family Physician* making house calls for even the least of these.

c) **Doctor Jesus**...our *Superior Surgeon* extracting our *cancerous sin*.

d) **Doctor Jesus**...the *Chief Resident* of our heart, if we’ll only receive Him in.

(1) And don’t forget...a good doctor sometimes **hurts you** to **heal you**...eg. *the resetting of a broken bone*.

G. **Slide15c** (13) Go learn Hosea 6:6 [said to men who *thought* they knew everything]

1. Go learn to have mercy towards sinners, to the spiritually needy. **Which** is a work more pleasing to God than *a mere formality of religious duties* or the *most expensive sacrifice* w/*no* concern for others. [i.e. *heart of law not letter*]

H. Jesus came to save *real sinners*. He came to deal not w/*our merits*, but *our demerits*.

V. **Slide16a FASTING OR FEASTING? (14,15)**

A. The *snakes/Pharisees* had *slithered up* to ask questions to *others*, not to Jesus.

   But now, *like honest friends*, John’s *disciples* feeling hurt, come right to headquarters & asked the Lord Himself, face to face they ask their question.

   1. By the way, they happened to be **right in the middle of a fast** (Mrk.2:18).

   **Slide16b** Maybe they were *smelling the feast*?

B. (15) **Why do you fast?** *You’ll have to answer that yourself*. Why my *disciples* don’t, He proceeds to answer. This was a time of *joy not mourning*. A feast, not a *funeral*.

C. **Will be taken away from them** - Here is the 1st He speaks about His death.

D. **So far...Jesus, the Physician** who offers sinners new life & spiritual health. *Jesus, the bridegroom* who brings new love & joy.

E. Back at vs.9 it said *Jesus passed on from there*. Jesus was passing by when He called *Matthew to come & travel w/me*. *Don’t let Jesus pass you by*. Are you hearing Him call to you this morning to **follow Him**?

   1. **Come to me, all of you who are weary & carry heavy burdens, & I will give you rest**.

VI. **Slide17 RAGS & BOTA BAGS (16,17)**

A. RAGS (16)

B. This Illustration reminds us that he came to bring *spiritual wholeness*. 
C. He did not come to *patch us up* & then let us fall apart.

1. Have you ever wasted your time trying to patch something that wasn’t holding? [sprinkler, inner tube, pool]

D. Jesus came *not* to repair Israel’s worn vesture, *but* to bring *new robes*.

E. **BOTA BAGS** (17)

F. Our word bottle comes from the *Spanish* word *bota* (a leather bottle).

G. The wineskins teaches that He gave *spiritual fullness*.

H. If unfermented wine is put into brittle old wineskins, *the gas* will burst the skins, & both the skins & the wine will be *lost*.

I. The Jewish religion was a *worn-out wineskin* that would burst if filled w/ the new wine of the gospel.

   1. The new life of the Spirit could not be forced into the wineskins of Judaism.
   2. Jesus was revealing the Jewish religion was about to be replaced.
      a) Heb. 8:13 *By calling this covenant new, he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear.*
   3. The things in the Ceremonial law were fulfilled in Jesus.
   4. Today there is no need for *sacrifices, priests, the temple nor ceremonies*.
   5. Jesus didn’t come to *renovate* the Law or even *mix* Law & Grace.
   6. Jesus Came with **New Life**.
      a) Is Jesus wanting to pour New Life into you, or your ministry? Will you tear?