



Riverstone
BAPTIST CHURCH

Sermon Based Questions

Series: Training for Godliness Prt 4
Sunday 4th October 2026

Witness: The B.L.E.S.S Practices

*18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' 19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, **a friend of tax collectors and sinners.**' But wisdom is proved right by her deeds."*

Matthew 11:18-19

Jesus came to seek & to save that which is lost Luke 19:10

(See also Matt 19, Acts 1:8, 1 Peter 3:15)

Jesus was known to be- A friend of sinners Matthew 11:18-19

5 Everyday B.L.E.S.S. Practices to engage in witness

B: Begin with Prayer

L: Listen

E: Eat

S: Serve

S: Story

See also: Surprise the World (B.E.L.L.S) Mike Frost

"Just do the blessing and let God do the converting."

- Dave Ferguson B.L.E.S.S

A. Examining the texts.

Can you remember how it was you came to faith and who were the people that God used to be involved in that process? What things did they do that impacted you?

1. Read Luke 19:10, Matt 28:19, Acts 1:8, 1 Peter 3:15. What do these scriptures reveal to us about the call to participate in God's mission? What assurances and directions do they give?
2. Read Matthew 11:16-19, Mark 2:15-16, Luke 15:1-2. What do these verses reveal to us about Jesus' heart for outsiders and his commitment to mission? How did Jesus relate to 'sinners'?
3. Read Genesis 12:1-3. What did God say to Abram and what was his destiny? How is Jesus the fulfilment of this hope and what insight does this give us (if any), on the nature of our mission?

B. Meditation & application

4. What changes in your life would you need to make to be called a friend of sinners?
5. What do you think the relationship is between prayer and mission? What light does Matthew 19:35-38 and Col. 4:2-4 shed on this?
6. How is mission related to eating with others in Jesus' ministry? See Luke 19:1-10
7. How does the practice of looking for opportunities to serve others, aid God's mission? How can God use your story in bringing others into a knowledge of the good news about Jesus?
8. Who could you seek to B.L.E.S.S in the coming months in your life. Write down a few names, start praying and look for opportunities to serve and share your story with them. Report back how God has been at work to the group.

Dear Heavenly Father: We thank you that you are a missionary God who is on mission to bring about redemption and new creation. Give us a vision to reach our friends. Teach us to pray for others, eat with them, look for opportunities to listen, serve and share our story with them. We ask this in Jesus Name- Amen.