

家訊

■ 感冒预防针

- (10/19, Sun, 12pm-2pm, 图书室)

■ 医治祷告

- Susanna Dayala
- Alice Chan
- Deborah Mun
- Elizabeth Chang

■ 莫斯科短宣 (10/25-11/7): 邓牧师

■ 浸礼 (12/21): 会员班 (11/23, 4 次)

■ 感恩见证会 (11/22, Sat, 5:30pm)

2014 CBCOC國語堂感恩見證會

你們要稱謝耶和華、因他本為善・他的慈愛永遠長存。

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Psalm 118:1



thanks giving

神說：凡以感謝獻上為
祭的，便是榮耀我。

愛 傳萬家

說出你的故事！

Join us for a Thanksgiving dinner, fellowship.

Saturday 11/22/2014 5:30pm

412 E. Broadway, Anaheim, CA 92805

Make. bring. share. eat. sing. laugh. 聚餐.每家帶一,二道菜

SCRIPTURE

讀經

馬太福音

9:9-13

(p. 1477)

9 耶穌從那裡往前走，看見一個人，名叫馬太，坐在稅關上，就對他說：「你跟從我來！」他就起來跟從了耶穌。

10 耶穌在屋裡坐席的時候，有好些稅吏和罪人來，與耶穌和他的門徒一同坐席。11 法利賽人看見，就對耶穌的門徒說：“你們的先生為什麼和稅吏並罪人一同吃飯呢？”

12 耶穌聽見就說：「康健的人用不著醫生，有病的人才用得著。」13 經上說：『我喜愛憐恤，不喜愛祭祀』，這句話的意思你們且去揣摩；我來本不是召義人，乃是召罪人。」

SERMON

信息

10/19/14

“給‘再次機會’的神”

“The God of Second Chances”

(Matthew 馬太福音 9:9-13)

Steve Niino

Pala Church Planter

THE
GOD OF

2

ND

chances



Who does God call to serve Him?

- What kind of qualifications does someone need to be a servant of our Lord Jesus Christ?
- What kind of person do you need to be before God will use you to help build His kingdom?
- Do you have to be a “**perfect**” person to be used by God?
- Could God be interested in **YOU** to help Him?
- This morning, we will try and answer these questions.

God doesn't call the qualified. **He qualifies the called!**

Interesting facts about Bible Characters:

Jacob was a cheater. **Peter** had a temper. **David** had an affair. **Noah** got drunk. **Jonah** ran from God. **Paul** was a murderer. **Gideon** was insecure. **Miriam** was a gossip. **Martha** was a worrier. **Thomas** was a doubter. **Sara** was impatient. **Elijah** was depressed. **Moses** was a studderer. **Zaccheus** was short. **Abraham** was old. And **Lazarus** was dead.

God calls those with a willing heart!

- Despite fears and doubts, Jessie Lee's Zion Group did a wonderful job in Pala.





It was a SWEET day in Pala!



Over 100 from Pala attended.
Praise the Lord!



The lady in orange came to our gatherings when she was 10 years old in 1998. Today, she has four children of her own and still follows us.

Preface

- Disclaimer about **this** sermon.
- **2 Kings 5:3** ³ She [*a captive young girl from Israel*] said to her mistress, "If only my master [*Naaman*] would see the prophet [*Elisha*] who is in Samaria! **He would cure him of his leprosy.**"
- Today, we are going to talk about the **Apostle Matthew**. By examining his life and character, we can truly see **how God uses *unlikely* people and changes them forever.**

1. _____ JUST AS I AM.

Matthew 9:9 (NIV)

⁹ As Jesus went on from there, he **saw** a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

1. Jesus sees me JUST AS I AM.

照我目前光景, 耶穌看見/認識我



Who Was Matthew?

- Matthew was probably one of the most unlikely men Jesus would think of choosing. He had made some **bad choices** in his life, and now he was **suffering the consequences**.
- Matthew was a despised tax collector, put in the same category in Jewish society as **prostitutes and sinners**.
- Low self-opinion: **lonely/despised/rejected/depressed with NO hope in life. He was financially rich but spiritually, morally, and emotionally bankrupt.** He could not even attend church.
- But then **he met Jesus Christ**. When Jesus **SAW** (means “deep understanding”) Matthew, He saw his **future potential**, not his painful past and shameful mistakes .
- **What does God see in you? He knows all about you!**

A look at a trio of other unlikely servants.

- Sometimes, it is not your current bad choices but **traumatic things that have happened in your past** that have molded you into what you are today.
- Many who live in Pala are like this and have become “**prisoners of their past.**”
 - Let’s meet two from Pala now.



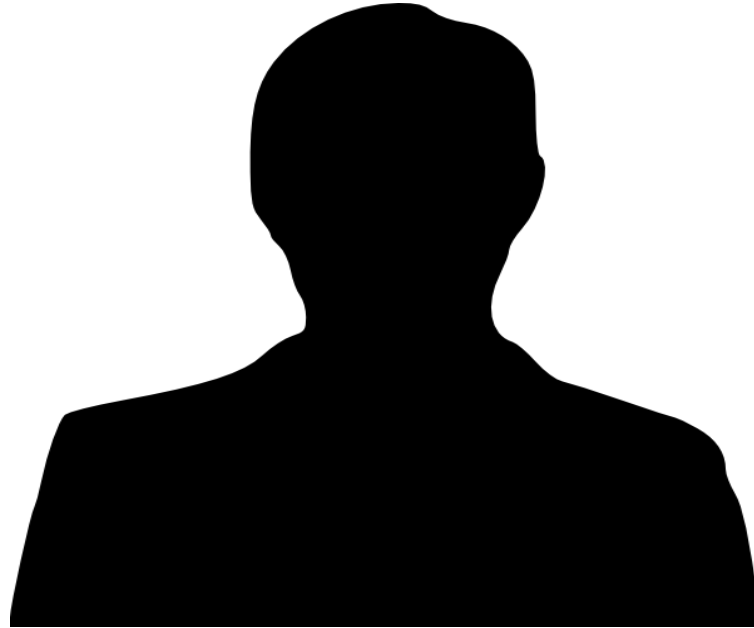
Charles “Chukee”

- Mother attacks father with knife when Chukee is 9.
- Native American ex-convict: Gang Member, Drug Dealer, Armed Robbery, Attempted Murder
 - Considered One of the “Badest” men in Pala



Danny G.

- 29 year-old Native American – abandoned by birth mother at age 2.
 - Drug User (meth) 12 of last 14 years
- _Considered in Pala to be angry, lost, and a **real loser**.



Mystery Matthew

- Mother committed suicide when he was 5 years old.
- MBA Berkeley. Worked for some of world's largest corporations.
- Slave to himself, Satan, sin, work/job; constantly chasing money, fame, ego and pride.
- "C-E-O" Christian, 1 million miles from God.

2. _____ JUST AS I AM.

Matthew 9:10-11 (NIV)

¹⁰ While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many **tax collectors and "sinners"** came and ate with him and his disciples.

¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with **tax collectors and 'sinners'?**"

2. Jesus loves me JUST AS I AM.

照我目前光景, 耶穌愛我



Who/How Does Jesus Love?

- **John 3:16** ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that **whoever** believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
- Jesus doesn't care about your past mistakes, He loves you just as you are. **Romans 5:8** ⁸ ... While we were **still sinners**, Christ died for us.
- It doesn't matter what you've done or who you've hurt. Matthew had sold his own soul and was "hurting" other people each time he collected taxes, but Jesus still loved him.
- Do you know that Jesus loves you? **God brought YOU here today so you will know how much He loves you. He loves you right now, in your seat, just as you are.**

3. _____ **JUST AS I AM.**

Matthew 9:12-13 (NIV)

¹² On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.

¹³ But go and learn what this means: 'I desire **mercy**, not sacrifice.' **For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.'**

3. Jesus calls me JUST AS I AM.

照我目前光景, 耶穌呼召我



How does Jesus call us?

- Jesus rebuked the Pharisees for their empty, heartless, merciless, rule-based **RELIGION**. They **loved themselves** more than they loved God or the people, especially the **poor**.
- “**Mercy**” in this verse means **loving kindness** to a person in a **pitiful** condition. This is the way God loves people. Jesus **didn’t** ask Matthew, “What are you doing at this tax collector’s table and why are you here? Shame on you, you sinner!”
- Jesus wants to know us **personally and experientially** through a **RELATIONSHIP** that controls us from the **inside out**; not rules, regulations, or rituals (i.e. a **religion**) that try and control us from the **outside in**.
- Jesus didn’t scold Matthew for his past behavior or tell Matthew that he had to change before he could follow Him.

4. _____ JUST AS I AM.

- o Romans 12:2a ² Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but **be transformed** by the renewing of your mind...
- o Philippians 1:6 ⁶ ...that he who began a good work in you **will carry it on to completion** until the day of Christ Jesus.
- o 2 Corinthians 5:17 *(TLB)* ¹⁷ When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a **brand new person** inside. He is **not the same** anymore. A new life has begun!

4. Jesus won't leave me JUST AS I AM.

耶穌不会允许我停留在目前光景!



How does Jesus change us?

- The **transformation of Matthew** is a wonderful picture of the **Grace of God**. God calls even pitiful, lost people out of their old hopeless life to a **whole new life with Him**.
- Jesus called Matthew to Himself *before* Matthew did anything good.
- Matthew, like us, could **NOT work for, buy, or earn** God's grace and his salvation. Jesus just **gave** it to him on the spot!
- Desperate for love and acceptance, **Matthew thought it was too late** for him. But when Jesus called him, he left his guilt, shame, and past sins behind. He jumped at a ***second chance***.
- So what did this previously broken, defeated, and hopeless man give us today? **HIS MESSAGE HAS CHANGED THE WORLD!**

What The Gospel of Matthew Gave Us

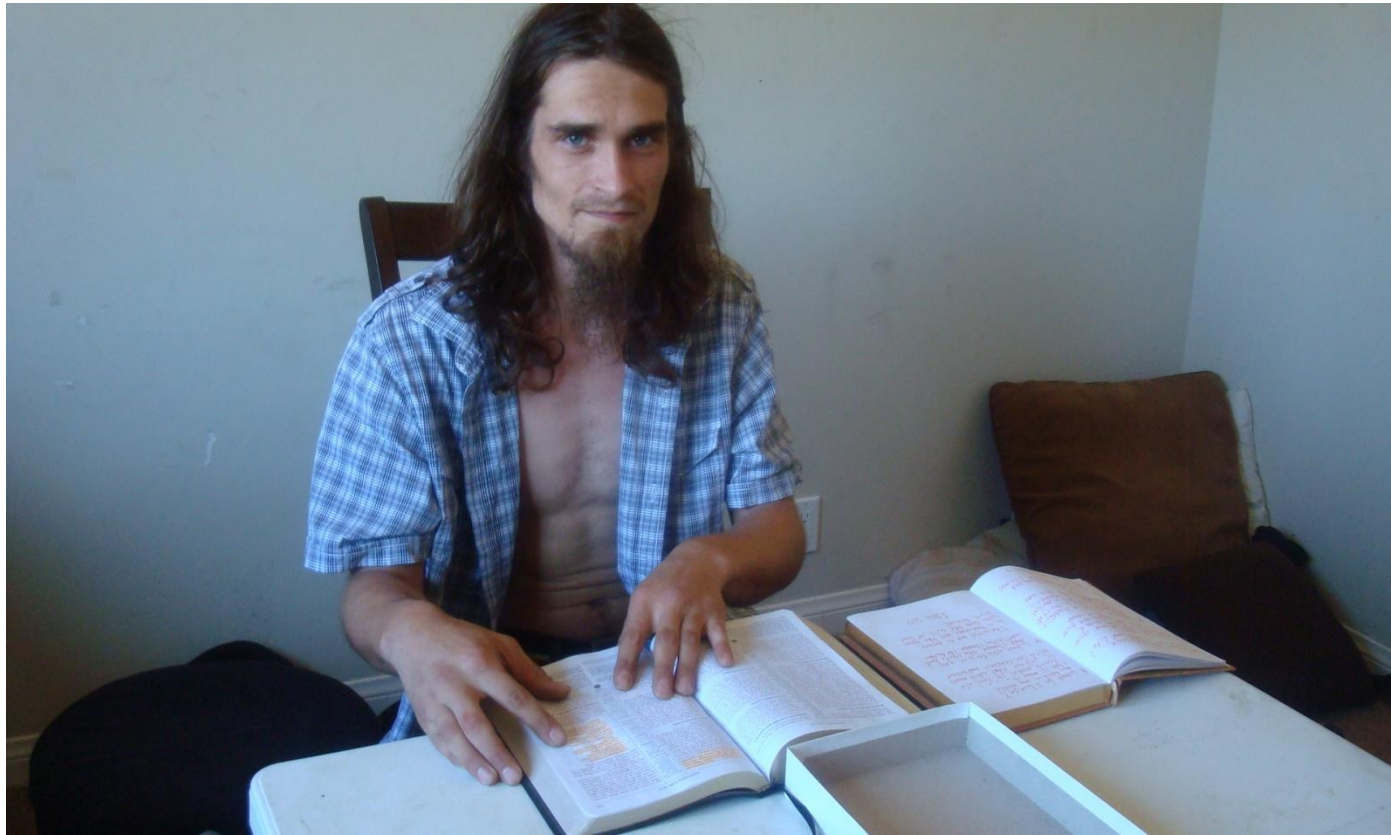
- One of the **most-read books** in the Bible.
- **The Lord's Prayer. Matthew 6:9-10** ⁹ "...Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, ¹⁰ your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven....
- **The Beattitudes. Matthew 5:3** ³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven....
- **The Great Commission. Matthew 28:19** ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,...
- **Matthew 11:28** ²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

And what about the three lost men that we spoke about in the beginning who were in many ways a lot like Matthew?



Charles “Chukee”

- Sober for 15 years. Now leads weekly **Bible Studies**, often in his own home.
- Reaching out to other lost Native American men and leading them to the Lord.



Danny G.

- Drug free for two years. Hosts **Bible Studies** in his house.
- _Writing a **booklet containing Christian sayings** for publication and distribution on the Rez to other young men.
- _Uses his **skateboarding talent to witness** to Pala teenagers.

Sample Sayings To Be Included in Book

- Sometimes God will wreck your plans so that your plans won't wreck you.
- God is like oxygen; you can't see Him but you can't live without Him.
- I asked God to protect me from my enemies, and I started losing my "friends."
- If you kneel before God, you can stand up to anybody.
- Don't tell God about your problems; tell your problems that you have God.
- Worrying about tomorrow just takes away today's peace.
- **B-I-B-L-E: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth**



Mystery Matthew

- Redeemed Lost Sinner.
- One day, fell to his knees, **humbled** himself at the foot of the cross, and received God's mercy.
- Became a servant of God on a dusty Indian Reservation.

Conclusion

- **No one** is beyond God's reach, no matter what their sins, past, or lack of qualifications might be.
- Like Matthew, let God help each one of you step into a **whole new way of life in Jesus Christ**.
- Oh, by the way, to be used by God, you don't have to be a **wretched, lost person** like the four men we just discussed.
- You can also be **nice people** too, like Jessie and her Group!
- Is God calling **YOU** today to do something for His kingdom?

“God's Not Dead”

Let love explode and bring the dead to life

**A love so bold to see a revolution
somehow...**

My God's not dead

He's surely alive

He's living on the inside

Roaring like a lion

RESPONSE HYMN

回應詩

282

“Softly and Tenderly”

“耶穌溫柔慈聲”

耶_穌溫柔慈聲懇切呼喚你

祂呼喚你_快歸家

耶_穌站在你心門外等候你

等候你來_迎接祂

歸家, 歸家, 傷心愁悶者, 歸家

耶_穌溫柔慈聲懇切呼喚你

歸家_, 懇請你_歸家

為_何你還推卻耶穌的懇請

祂懇請你_今歸家

為_何你還耽延忽略主救恩

祂因救你_把血灑

歸家, 歸家, 傷心愁悶者, 歸家

耶_穌溫柔慈聲懇切呼喚你

歸家_, 懇請你_歸家

何_等奇妙耶穌已經應許你
應許赦免_你罪惡
只_要你肯回頭悔改認你罪
祂就賜平_安喜樂
歸家, 歸家, 傷心愁悶者, 歸家
耶_穌溫柔慈聲懇切呼喚你
歸家_, 懇請你_歸家

