

Bible Stories for Young Children

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

MATTHEW BECOMES A DISCIPLE

by

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MATTHEW 9:9-13

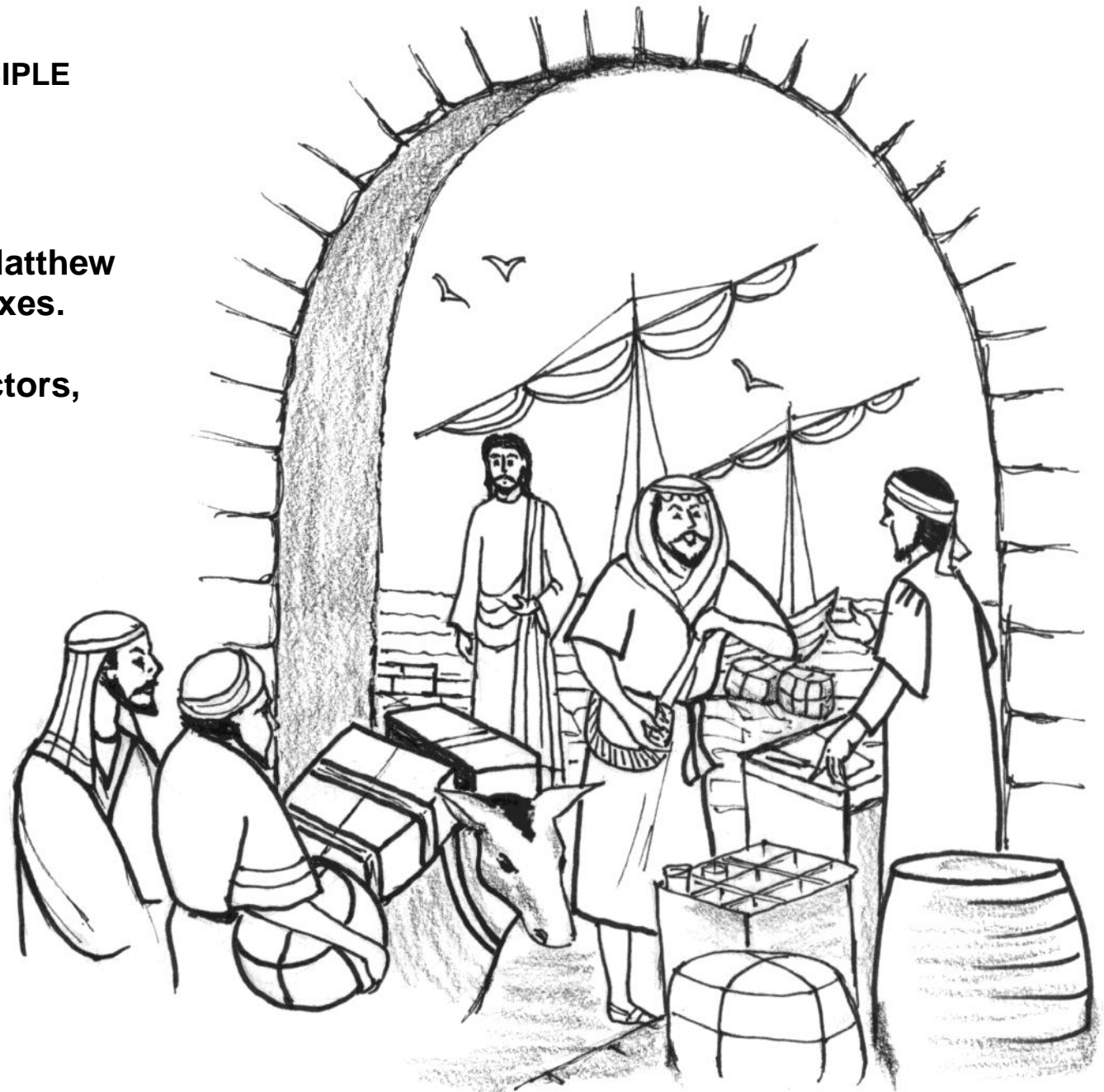
Mark 2:13-17; Luke 5:27-32

MATTHEW BECOMES A DISCIPLE

File no. 117

**There was a man called Matthew
who collected people's taxes.**

**The Jews hated tax collectors,
and they hated Matthew.**

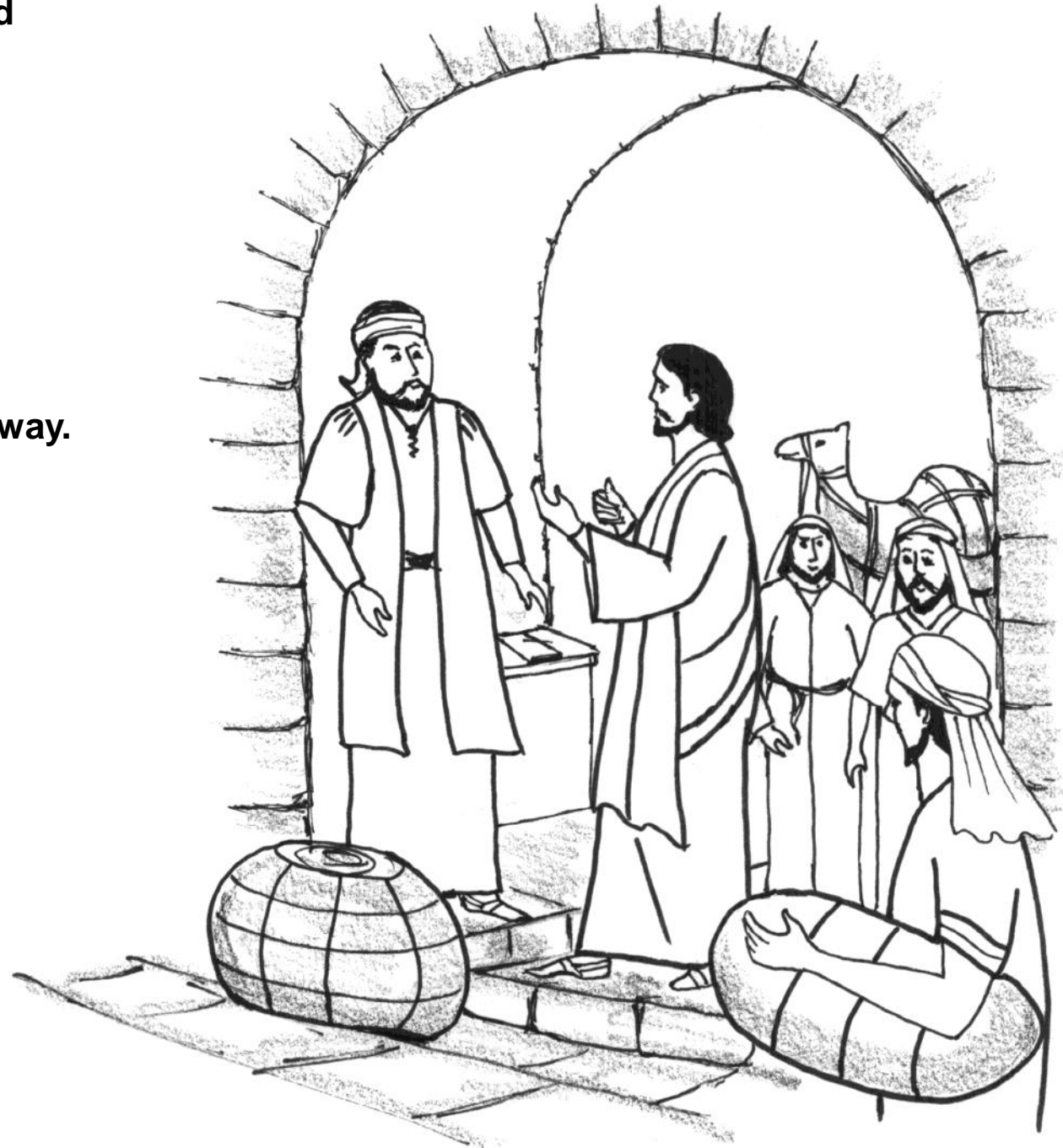


Sometimes Matthew heard people talk about Jesus and he saw Jesus when He walked by.

Then one day Jesus came to Matthew and said, 'Come and follow Me.'

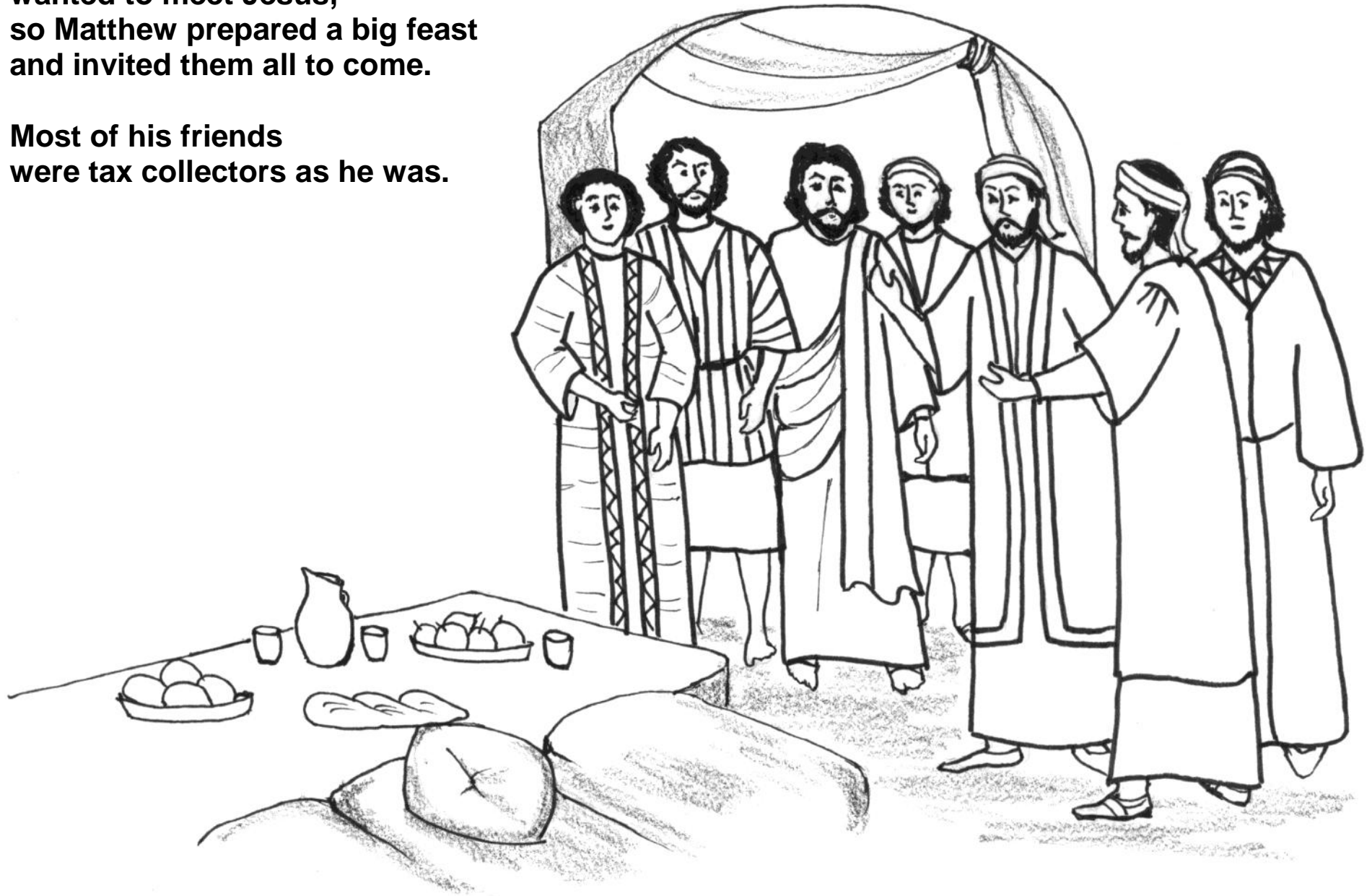
Matthew got up straight away. He left his office and followed Jesus.

He listened to Him talk about God, His Father, and about His kingdom.



**Many of Matthew's friends
wanted to meet Jesus,
so Matthew prepared a big feast
and invited them all to come.**

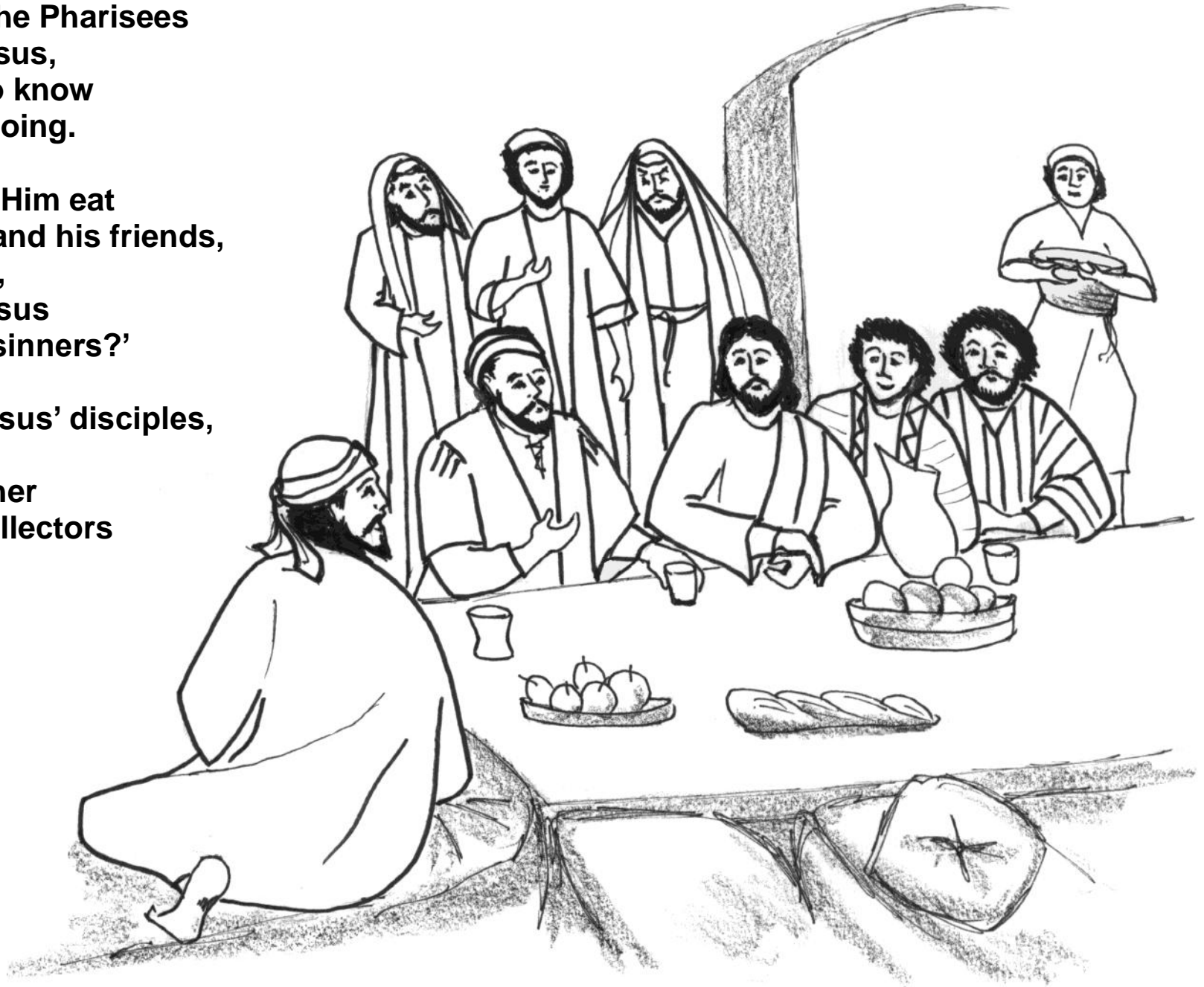
**Most of his friends
were tax collectors as he was.**



Even though the Pharisees did not like Jesus, they wanted to know what He was doing.

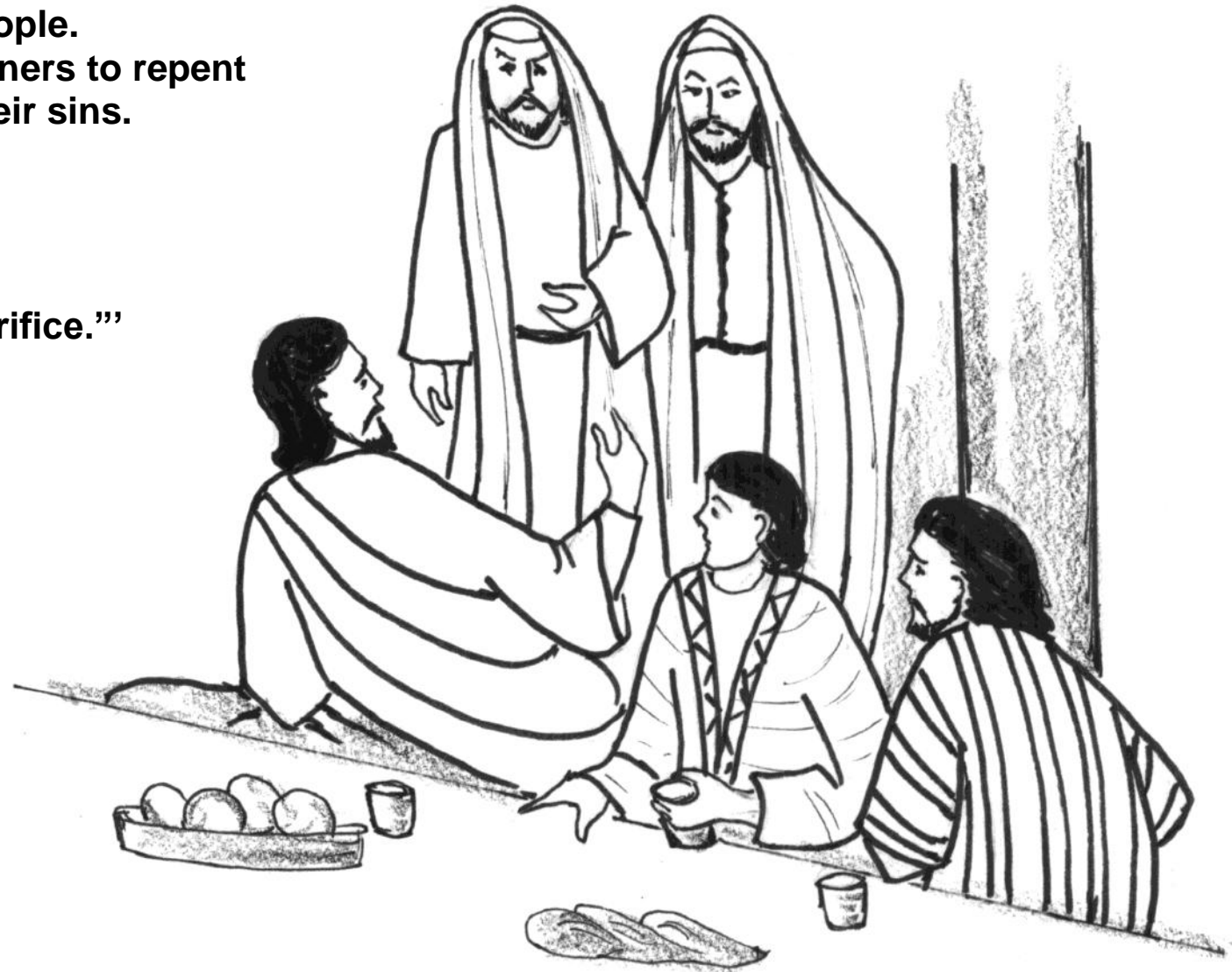
They watched Him eat with Matthew and his friends, and wondered, 'How could Jesus be a friend of sinners?'

They asked Jesus' disciples, 'Why do you and your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?'



**Jesus heard them
and answered saying,
'People who are well
don't need a doctor.
A doctor is for sick people.
I have come to call sinners to repent
and turn away from their sins.**

**'Have a look and
see in your scriptures
what God requires.
"I want mercy, not sacrifice."**



**Matthew believed Jesus
and became a servant
of God's kingdom.**

