

## SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSONS, FIRST QUARTER.

LESSON 11.] JESUS AT MATTHEW'S HOUSE. [MARCH 18.

Mark 2. 13-22.

GOLDEN TEXT.—He said unto him, Follow me.—Luke 5. 27.

MEMORY VERSES, 15-17.—And it came to pass, that, as Jesus sat at meat in his house, many publicans and sinners sat also together with Jesus and his disciples: for there were many and they followed him.

And when the scribes and Pharisees saw him eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto his disciples, How is it that he eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners?

When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

*To the folks at home: Please help the little folks to learn this lesson.*

## LESSON STORY.

When Jesus lived on earth the Jews were under the rule of the Romans, and were obliged to pay taxes to them. This they did not like to do, and so they did not like the men who gathered the taxes. These men were called publicans, and it was a term of reproach. Some of the publicans were Jews, and they were all the more despised for consenting to help the Romans. Matthew was one of these publicans.

Jesus saw this rich, despised publican sitting in his place receiving the taxes, and he said to him, "Follow me." That was all, but Matthew rose and followed him. What do you think Jesus saw in Matthew's heart? When a little later the proud Pharisees saw Jesus eating with publicans and sinners in the fine house where Matthew lived, they were shocked because he would associate with such people. Read the words in which Jesus rebuked them.

## LESSON QUESTIONS.

1. Who was Matthew?

*A rich tax gatherer.*

2. What did Jesus do?

*He called Matthew to follow him.*