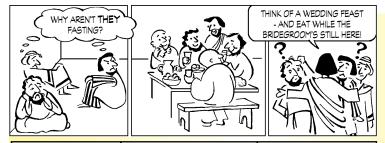


Near Lake Galilee Jesus passed the office of a tax-collector called Levi (also called Matthew in other books of the Bible). Then Jesus stopped and said, 'Follow me!'

To everyone's surprise Levi left his desk and followed Jesus. Later he invited Jesus to a meal at his home with some of his friends.

They were not popular people. The Jews thought Jesus was wrong to mix with outcasts and they criticized him.



Another day some Jews were fasting (going without food) as a sign of their faith. They watched what Jesus did.

They just couldn't understand why Jesus and his friends weren't keeping this religious law. Instead they were having a good feast.

Jesus said that he and his friends were feasting because they might not be all together for much longer.

Read Mark 2:13-22

Write in red the question Jesus' critics asked in Levi's house and write in blue Jesus' answer.

Palestine was part of the Roman Empire when Jesus was alive. It was divided into provinces. The Romans put a governor in charge of each one. Pontius P was one of these governors.

1. Look at Mark 15:2 to complete the rest of his name. His base was at Caesarea, but at times he and his troops went to Jerusalem to take control. Some people liked to take advantage of religious holidays, like Passover, to make trouble in the city.

2. Hereis our map of Palestine again. The dots show all the

Write in the two cities.

underlined and printed in red above, on the map next to the correct dots.

The Roman Empire was well organised. Provinces usually had strong control.

SADOR _ _ _ _

REWAT _ _ _ _ systems and DATER were improved.

3. Sort out these anagrams to find out which of these, trade - water -<u>roads</u> goes in the spaces.

These were mostly for the troops but they also helped the local people. These benefits



they liked it or

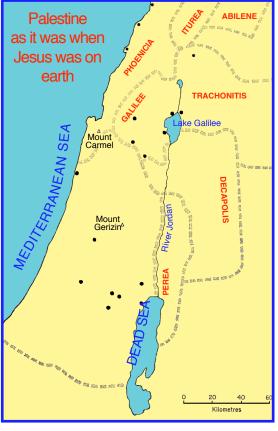
had to be paid for by taxes and the people had to pay these whether

not. Those that collected them

were very unpopular. Some called them cheats or even traitors. Levi was a tax collector but he became a follower of Jesus and is also known as

THAWMET

4. Look at Mark 3:18 to help you sort out this name. He also contributed to the writing of a Gospel, like Mark.





ODD ONE OUT	Choose two groups that you are in – i.e. family, class at school, Brownies, Cubs, Guides or Scouts, clubs, sports teams, church, or where you live. GROUP 1 a) b)
Write the odd one out in each of the sets in the box.	Now think of anyone in these two groups who you think may be 'odd one out'. Write it in code if you like.
1. (a) Mars (b) Capri (c) Jupiter (d) Neptune	What do you think makes them different from the rest?
2. (a) Petunia (b) Rose (c) Spruce (d) Dahlia	How does the rest of the group treat them?
3. (a) Canada (b) Asia (c) Europe (d) Africa	Why are we sometimes unkind or thoughtless towards people who are different?
4. (a) Mark (b) Luke (c) James (d) John	

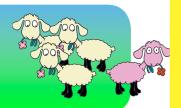
Jesus often made friends with the 'odd man (or woman) out'. He wanted them all to be part of his Kingdom. He also wants us to be friendly to the lonely, unhappy, even unpleasant people in our groups for the same reason.

The coded Bible verse will tell you more.

Write a story called

THE OUTGAST

You could base it on a true story or an imaginary one.



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Levi was unpopular because he collected taxes for the Roman government. Find out about our system of taxes by asking adults to help you fill in the missing words from the list below.

Income tax is collected by the
from everyone who
money. The a person
earns, the more he or she pays.
The money collected is then used to provide
for everyone is a tax
added to things people in shops.
gains tax is paid by people
who money in other ways. Import
duty is paid by people who bring goods
from into the UK.

SERVICES – VAT – BUY – MORE – MAKE – TAX ABROAD – GOVERNMENT (Inland Revenue) CAPITAL – EARNS

Answer these questions.

- 1. What kind of thing does the government provide with the taxes it collects?
- 2. What would you spend public money on in your town?
- 3. Should Christians be happy to pay? Why?

Find these references in a Bible – the New Testament part. Write in the spaces the names of the Roman leaders. Then find these names in the wordsearch.

Acts 4:27	
Luke 2:1	
Luke 3:1	
Acts 10:1	
Acts 11:28	
Acts 23:24	
Acts 24:22	
Acts 24:27	
Acts 27:1	
Acts 28:7	

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	N	U	A	U	G	U	S	T	U	S	C	I
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Quick Quiz

Read Mark 2:13-22 in your Good News Gospel

- 1. Where did Jesus meet Levi?
- 2. What was the name of Levi's father?
- 3. Who joined Levi and Jesus for a meal?
- 4. Who criticized Jesus?
- 5. Which law did Jesus and his disciples break?
- 6. When did Jesus say the disciples should fast?
- 7. What did Jesus say about an old coat?