

At sidde fast i og at sidde hos

Prædiken 17. e. trinitatis, 27.9.2026. LGJ

Evangelium: Markus 2,14-22

Da han gik videre, så han Levi, Alfæus' søn, sidde ved toldboden, og han sagde til ham: "Følg mig!" Og han rejste sig og fulgte ham. Senere sad Jesus til bords i hans hus, og mange toldere og syndere sad til bords sammen med ham og hans disciple, for der var mange, som fulgte ham.

Da de skriftkloge blandt farisæerne så, at han spiste sammen med syndere og toldere, spurgte de hans disciple: "Hvorfor spiser han sammen med toldere og syndere?" Men da Jesus hørte det, sagde han til dem: "De raske har ikke brug for læge, det har de syge. Jeg er ikke kommet for at kalde retfærdige, men syndere."

Johannes' disciple og farisæerne holdt faste. Da kom der nogle til ham og spurgte: "Hvorfor faster Johannes' disciple og farisæernes disciple, men dine disciple faster ikke?" Jesus svarede dem: "Kan brudesvendene faste, mens brudgommen er sammen med dem? Så længe de har brudgommen hos sig, kan de ikke faste. Men der kommer dage, da brudgommen er taget fra dem, og den dag skal de faste."

1) Om "at sidde fast"

> Godt at sidde fast i noget, der er til gavn.

Levi, Alfæus' søn sad ved toldboden. Han sad i sit arbejde som tolder. Her tjente han sine penge. Måske havde han et fint hus. For som tolder tjente han godt. Han sad godt i det. Men han sad også fast – var nødt til at tjene pengene for at blive i sit fine hus.

Det var ikke i sig selv forkert at være tolder. Johannes Døber sagde toldere, som blev døbt af ham: vær ærlige toldere. "Opkræv kun det, der står i reglerne. Tag ikke ekstra til jer selv!" Og Jesus sagde: "Giv kejseren, hvad kejserens er, og Gud, hvad Guds er." Man kunne godt arbejde for kejseren.

Det er en gave fra Gud at have et kald og en opgave og et arbejde. Også selv om du må tjene dit brød i dit ansigts sved med tidsler i marken og kriser på arbejdspladsen. Det er normalen her i verden. Når du synes at du sidder fast, da husk: Du arbejder for din Herre i himlen. Du tjener pengene for at kunne bruge dem til gavn for familie, kirke og andre.

Vi kan også sidde fast i et vanskeligt forhold til mennesker, vi er knyttet tæt sammen med i ægteskab, familie og menighed. En mor kan føle, at

To be stuck in and to sit with

Sermon 17th Trinity, 27.9.2026. LGJ

Gospel: Mark 2:14-22 NAU

14 As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting in the tax booth, and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he got up and followed Him. 15 And it happened that He was reclining at the table in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners were dining with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many of them, and they were following Him. 16 When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that He was eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they said to His disciples, "Why is He eating and drinking with tax collectors and sinners?" 17 And hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick; I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

18 John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and they came and said to Him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?" 19 And Jesus said to them, "While the bridegroom is with them, the attendants of the bridegroom cannot fast, can they? So long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. 20 "But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day."

1) On "getting stuck"

> Good to get stuck in something that is beneficial.

Levi, the son of Alphaeus, sat at the customs booth. He sat in his job as a tax collector. Here he earned his money. Maybe he had a nice house. As a tax collector he earned well. He sat well in it. But he was also stuck – had to earn the money to stay in his fine house.

It was not in itself wrong to be a tax collector. John the Baptist once spoke to tax collectors who were baptized by him: "Be honest tax collectors. Collect only what is in the rules. Do not take extra for yourselves!" And Jesus said: "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God what is God's." You could work for Caesar.

It is a gift from God to have a calling and a task and a job. Even if you have to earn your bread in the sweat of your face having thistles in the field and crises at work. That is the norm in this world. When you feel stuck, remember: You are working for your Lord in heaven. You are earning the money to be able to use it for the benefit of family, church and others.

We may also be stuck in a difficult relationship with people we are closely attached to in marriage, family, and ward. A mother may feel that she is stuck with

hun sidder fast med amning og har mange nætter uden søvn. I kan også føle, at I er kørt fast i ægteskabet. Eller dit barn er alvorligt sygt eller en gammel i familien er dement og urimelig. Eller der er dårlig trivsel i din menighed. Du sidder fast og ønsker noget bedre. Da husk: denne jord er ikke himlen. Gud har givet ægteskab, familie og menighed, hvor der er stor nød. Vi har selv brug for hjælp og tilgivelse. Og vi må hjælpe og tilgive hinanden, som Gud tilgiver os for Jesu skyld. Vi er, hvor vi skal være, når vi lever og forbliver i ægteskabet, i familien og i den kristne menighed, så i ringe den end er. Det driver jer sammen og ind i bøn til Gud. Hvilken gave!! Det er godt at sidde fast, når vi er, hvor Gud har sat os. > Dårligt at sidde fast i noget, der er til skade. Men vi kan også sidde fast i noget, som er dårligt, og som vi ikke skulle være i. Du har det, som om du er kørt ud i en sump med din bil. Du sidder fast. Du mærker griskhed, utugt og hovmod. Du mærker din vrede og utålmodighed. Du har et arbejde, hvor du dagligt må bryde Guds bud, uærlighed og utroskab. Du kan ikke befri dig selv! Det er håbløst. Hvad skal du da gøre? Da kommer Jesus forbi. Han har den store jeep, som kan trække dig ud af sumpen. Da Jesus gik videre, så han Levi, Alfæus' søn, sidde ved toldboden, og han sagde til ham: "Følg mig!" Og han rejste sig og fulgte ham. Det var ikke fordi Levi, Alfæus' søn, berigede sig selv på andres bekostning. Jesus ville gøre ham til sin discipel og apostel. Han skulle i lære og blive den, der senere skrev Matthæus-evangeliet til den kristne kirke. Op da kommer vi til det andet i teksten: 2) Om "at side hos" Senere sad Jesus til bords i hans hus. Da Levi har forladt sit gamle arbejde, sidder Jesus hos ham. > Først må Jesus knytte os fast til sig Man kunne måske tænke, at Jesus straks gav Levi opgaver og satte ham i arbejde. Men det første Jesus gjorde var at besøge Levi og sidde til bords i hans hus. Ligesom da Jesus besøgte Martha og Maria for nogle søndage siden, og Jesus underviste og forkyndte evangeliet for dem. Sådan begynder det for en kristen. Og sådan fortsætter det. Jesus vil være hos os. Det er det	breastfeeding and has many nights without sleep. You may also feel that you are stuck in marriage. Or your child is seriously ill or an old family member is demented and unreasonable. Or there is poor well-being in your ward. You are stuck and want something better. Then remember: this earth is not heaven. God has provided marriage, family and church where there is great need. We ourselves need help and forgiveness. And we must help and forgive each other, as God forgives us for Jesus' sake. We are where we shall live when we remain in marriage, in the family and in the Christian church, however small it is. It drives you together and into prayer to God. What a gift!! It's good to be stuck when we are where God has put us. > Bad to get stuck in something that is harmful. But we can also get stuck in something that is bad and that we should not be in. You feel as if you have been driven into a swamp with your car. You are stuck. You feel greed, fornication and pride. You experience your anger and impatience. You have a job where you have to break God's commandments, dishonesty and infidelity on a daily basis. You cannot free yourself! It is hopeless. What are you to do then? Then Jesus comes by. He has the big jeep that can pull you out of the swamp. As Jesus went on, he saw Levi, the son of Alphaeus, sitting at the customs booth, and he said to him, "Follow me!" And he got up and followed him. It was not because Levi, the son of Alphaeus, enriched himself at the expense of others. Jesus wanted to make him his disciple and apostle. He was to be an apprentice and become the one who later wrote the Gospel of Matthew for the Christian church. And then we come to the second part of the text: 2) On "to sit with" Later, Jesus sat at the table in his house. When Levi has left his old job, Jesus sits with him. > First, Jesus must bind us to Himself You might think that Jesus immediately gave Levi assignments and put him to work. But the first thing Jesus did was to visit Levi and sit at the table in his house. Just like when Jesus visited Martha and Mary a few Sundays ago, and Jesus taught and preached the gospel to them. That is how it begins for a Christian. And so it continues. Jesus will be with us. That is the most
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vigtigste. Være, hvor 2 eller 3 er forsamlet i hans navn. Være hos os med sit Ord og lære os alt det, han lærte apostlene. Og give os sit legeme og blod i den hellige nadver. At efterfølge Jesus er først og fremmest at være sammen hos ham. Han går foran og vi er bagefter. Han gør det hele, og hører og ser, at han er vores frelseren. Sådan fortsætter Markus også og fortæller, at og mange toldere og syndere sad til bords sammen med ham og hans disciple, for der var mange, som fulgte ham. Levi sad ikke alene med Jesus. Nogle af hans kolleger i de andre fine villaer, sluttede sig til ham og Jesus. Og de sammen med "syndere". Syndere var dem, som havde brudt de 10 bud. De sad ikke i gode villaer. Jesus samlede dem. For der var mange, som fulgte ham. Levi fik troen. Hans kolleger blev draget med. Det er mission. Det er evangelisation. Jesus gjorde det. Derfor sidder vi sammen i en kristen menighed til gudstjeneste og lytter til, hvad Gud har givet os i Den hellige Skrift. Det handler om Jesus og os. Når andre ser, hvor ringe menigheden er, at den består af toldere og syndere, og at den korsfæstede lever hos os, da kan det ske, som også skete i evangeliet: 3) Jesus er læge; toldere og syndere er syge <i>Da de skriftkloge blandt farisæerne så, at han spiste sammen med syndere og toldere, spurgte de hans disciple: "Hvorfor spiser han sammen med toldere og syndere?"</i> > De skriftkloge spørger. De spørger, fordi troende jøder ikke spiste sammen med hvem som helst. De havde heller ikke fællesskab med jøder, som var åbenlyst frafaldne og levede i strid med de 10 bud. I epistlen hørte vi: <i>Der er nogle, som I skal være barmhjertige imod, nemlig dem, der tvivler; nogle skal I frelse ved at rive dem ud af ilden; andre igen skal I være barmhjertige imod, men med frygt, så I endog skyr den kjortel, der er plettet af deres syndige krop.</i> Den, som vil leve i frafald fra Gud, skal vi være barmhjertige imod med frygt. Det samme har Jesus lært os, når han fortæller om det fortabte får, som hyrden går ud og leder efter. Og han fortæller også, at den, der lever i frafald fra Gud, skal advares, og regnes for en tolder og hedning, hvis han ikke vil bekende sin synd og modtage tilgivelsen. (Matt 18:12-20). Når de skriftkloge blandt farisæerne fandt det forkert at Jesus spiste med toldere og syndere, var det, fordi de ikke forstod, at der skal vises	important thing. Be where 2 or 3 are gathered together in His name. Be with us with His Word and teach us all that He taught the apostles. And give us His body and blood in His Holy Supper To follow Jesus is first and foremost to be together with Him. He leads the way and we are behind. He does it all, and hears and sees that He is our Savior. In this way, Mark also continues and tells that many tax collectors and sinners sat at table with him and his disciples, because there were many who followed him. Levi did not sit alone with Jesus. Some of his colleagues in the other fine villas joined him and Jesus. And they together with "sinners". Sinners were those who had broken the 10 commandments. They did not sit in good villas. Jesus gathered them. For there were many who followed him. Levi got the faith. His colleagues were drawn along. That's mission. It's evangelism. Jesus did it. That is why we sit together in a Christian congregation for worship and listen to what God has given us in the Holy Scriptures. It is about Jesus and us. When others see how poor the church is, that it consists of tax collectors and sinners, and that the crucified lives with us, then it can happen as also happened in the gospel: 3) Jesus is a physician; tax collectors and sinners are sick <i>When the scribes among the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"</i> > The scribes ask. They ask because believing Jews did not eat with just anyone. Nor did they have fellowship with Jews who were openly apostates and lived in violation of the 10 commandments. In the Epistle we heard: <i>There are some to whom you must be merciful, even those who doubt; some you must save by plucking them out of the fire; still others you must be merciful to, but with fear, so that you shun even the robe that is stained with their sinful body.</i> Whoever wants to live in apostasy from God, we must have mercy on with fear. Jesus has taught us the same thing when he tells us about the lost sheep that the shepherd goes out and looks for. And he also tells us that he who lives in apostasy from God must be warned, and counted as a tax collector and a Gentile, if he will not confess his sin and receive forgiveness. (Matthew 18:12-20) When the scribes among the Pharisees thought it wrong that Jesus ate with tax collectors and sinners, it
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barmhjertighed mod dem, som råber om hjælp, men mente, at syndere og toldere skulle overholde Guds Lov, før man spiste sammen med dem. Men Gud krav til os kan ikke forbedre os. Det kan kun Guds tilgivelse og nåde. Og det viser Jesus os nu: > Jesus viser os, at vi er syge, og han er lægen Jesus svarer: <i>"De raske har ikke brug for læge, det har de syge. Jeg er ikke kommet for at kalde retfærdige, men syndere."</i> Overfor de skriftkloge omtaler Jesus toldere og syndere som "syge mennesker". <i>"De er syge og uretfærdige."</i> Kan man tale sådan om andre? Jesus kan. Og han gør det. Så tydeligt skal det også siges i den kristne menighed: At vi er syge. At synden slår os ihjel. At syndens løn er døden. Vi har i vores arbejdsliv og familieliv og menighedsliv været uretfærdige. Synden bor i dig. Du er syg! Meget syg. Døds syg. Men Jesus er kommet til os og har samlet i sin menighed og kirke. Han siger, at vi har brug for ham som vor læge. Han helbreder os fra syndens sygdom ved at tilgive os, så vi kan få evigt liv. Og han renser os og vi bliver iklædt ham. Sådan bliver vi retfærdige. Vi bliver ikke kristne og retfærdige ved det gode, vi har gjort eller måske kan gøre en gang i fremtiden. Vi bliver kristne og retfærdige mennesker, når Gud tilgiver os ved nåden i Jesus Kristus. Derfor er vi så glade for Bibelen og dåben og nadveren. Afslutning Og for at vi skal vide, at livet dermed bliver let, siger Jesus til sidst i søndagens evangelium: <i>Men der kommer dage, da brudgommen er taget fra dem, og den dag skal de faste.</i> Der vil komme dage, hvor kristne rammes af stor sorg, så de må faste og søge ind til Gud i stilhed. Sådanne dage har ramt os i den sidste uges tid, da vor kære Ejvind døde. Da føler vi, at Herren er taget fra os. Hvor er han? Ligesom da Jesus døde langfredag. Da fastede disciplene. Men han stod op igen og lever. Når sådanne tider kommer i vores familie og menighed, da må vi faste og bede i tro på Jesus, som er vor Frelser. Amen.	was because they did not understand that mercy should be shown to those who cry out for help, but believed that sinners and tax collectors should obey God's Law before eating with them. But God's requirements for us cannot improve us. Only God's forgiveness and grace can do that. And Jesus shows us this now: > Jesus shows us that we are sick, and He is the doctor Jesus answers: <i>"The healthy do not need a doctor, but the sick do. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."</i> To the scribes, Jesus refers to tax collectors and sinners as "sick people." <i>"They are sick and unrighteous."</i> Can you speak of others like that? Jesus can. And he does. This is how clearly it should also be said in the Christian church: That we are sick. That sin kills us. That the wages of sin is death. We have been unrighteous in our work life and family life and church life. Sin lives in you. You are sick! Very sick. Deathly sick. But Jesus has come to us and has gathered in His church and church. He says that we need Him as our healer. He heals us from the disease of sin by forgiving us so that we can have eternal life. And He cleanses us and we are clothed with Him. This is how we become righteous. We do not become Christians and righteous by the good we have done or perhaps can do sometime in the future. We become Christians and righteous people when God forgives us by grace in Jesus Christ. That is why we are so happy with the Bible and baptism and the Lord's Supper. Final words And in order for us to know that life will thus be easy, Jesus says at the end of Sunday's Gospel: <i>"But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day."</i> There will be days when Christians will be struck by great sorrow, so that they must fast and seek God in silence. Such days have hit us in the last week or so, when our dear Ejvind died. Then we feel that the Lord has been taken from us. Where is he? Just like when Jesus died on Good Friday. Then the disciples fasted. But he rose again and lives. When such times come in our families and church, we must fast and pray with faith in Jesus, who is our Savior. Amen.
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