

## Surpassing Pleasures

(Mk 2:15-17) <sup>15</sup>Now it happened, as He was dining in Levi's house, that many tax collectors and sinners also sat together with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many, and they followed Him. <sup>16</sup>And when the scribes and Pharisees saw Him eating with the tax collectors and sinners, they said to His disciples, "How is it that He eats and drinks with tax collectors and sinners?" <sup>17</sup>When Jesus heard it, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

Better Question: How is it sinners like being with Jesus?

Why don't sinners like being with the Church?

How did Jesus Share Life?

(Mt 11:18-19) <sup>18</sup>"For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' <sup>19</sup>"The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' But wisdom is justified by her children."

What was Jesus like? (reputation)

Stoic English Jesus? (Religious appearance)

Genuine, Confident, Accessible, Fun?

Was Jesus the Life of the party?

Wine at wedding of Cana, 7 Old Testament Feasts

Pharisees made feasts religious – sinners didn't hang with them

Not talking about Compromise (Heb 4:15) or Drunkenness (Eph 5:18)

Resurrection Life ought to be Appealing (worth the sacrifice)

IT'S OKAY TO BE FUN

Is your life appealing?

Pooh vs Piglet (Faith/Peace vs Fear)

(Jn 14:27) <sup>27</sup>"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

supernatural, not circumstantial (Phil 4:6-7)

(Jn 16:33) <sup>33</sup>"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Tigger vs Eeyore (Joy vs Negativity)

(Jn 15:11) <sup>11</sup>"These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.

supernatural, not circumstantial (Temple Prophecy)

(Eph 5:18) <sup>18</sup>And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, not prohibition, not spiritual drunkenness (Acts 2:15)

What is the Source of your Pleasure?

Captivated by SURPASSING PLEASURES (SoS 1:2)

Pursue His Presence (Ps 16:11)

Experience His Love (1 Jn 4:18, Eph 3:17-19)

Change the Atmosphere

(Mt 10:12-13) <sup>12</sup>“And when you go into a household, greet it. <sup>13</sup>“If the household is worthy, let your peace come upon it. But if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.

What would happen if His Joy and Peace surrounded us wherever we went?