21 January

“Follow me,’ Jesus said to him, and Levi got up, left everything and followed him” (Luke 5:27-28).

The people in Israel despised tax collectors because they collected money from them to give to their enemies, the Romans, so these occupiers of their country could continue to rule over them.

To compensate for this negativity towards them tax collectors would use their office to make themselves rich. But, in spite of this, Levi Matthew was dissatisfied; he was looking for something better, something that would give his life meaning. So when Jesus asked him to join his select band of followers he jumped at the chance. Two thousand years later we are benefitting from his legacy – the first of the four Gospels.
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