

# Short Talk

(SHT222)

**It is the sick who  
need a doctor!**

© Jane Hulme 2023

**ALL AGE WORSHIP**  
**RESOURCES.ORG**



## SHORT TALK: “It is the sick who need a doctor!”

<b>Aim of Short talk:</b>	To encourage people that Jesus came to heal the sick in spirit, which is all of us!
<b>Use of Short talk:</b>	This is a short All Age talk picking out one issue from the Lectionary Gospel reading of the Sunday main service. The talk stands alone and assumes that the Gospel Bible reading may not yet have been read to the congregation. It could be used, for example, for the whole congregation before the children go out to their age specific groups, leaving the adults with a full sermon later.
<b>Main themes:</b>	Jesus, Healing, Sinners, Salvation
<b>Biblical references:</b>	Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
<b>Lectionary:</b>	Year A 2023 – The 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity
<b>Props:</b>	You will need to be able to project a picture of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A mechanic.</li> <li>2. A teacher.</li> <li>3. A dentist</li> <li>4. A doctor</li> <li>5. Jesus</li> </ol>

At different times in our lives, we need the help of people who have certain skills.

- Who do you think we need to help us if our car breaks down and stops working? *(Receive responses)*
- Yes, we need the help of a skilled mechanic to fix our car. *(Project picture of mechanic)*

How about if we don't understand how to do a piece of maths homework.

- Who do you think we need to help us with that? *(Receive responses)*
- That's right, we need the help of a skilled teacher. *(Project picture of teacher)*

What about if we have toothache?

- Who do you think we need to help us with that? *(Receive responses)*
- We need the help of a skilled dentist to sort out our teeth. *(Project picture of dentist)*

And finally, what if we wake up one morning and we are covered in spots from head to foot.

- Who do you think we need to help us with that? *(Receive responses)*
- We need the help of a skilled doctor to sort out those spots. *(Project picture of doctor)*

We are very fortunate, aren't we, to have people to help us when we need them?

Jesus came to help people too.

- He lived in a country called Palestine and He spent time with all sorts of people.

Some of those people lived pretty bad lives,

- like the tax collectors, who were greedy and collaborated with the occupying army, and often took more money from people than they should.

Other people Jesus spent time with were known as sinners because they didn't keep God's holy law as the Jewish people were supposed to.

One day Jesus was invited to have a meal at Matthew, the tax collector's house.

- Matthew had invited many other tax collectors and sinners to the meal too.

When the Jewish religious leaders heard about Jesus spending time in such bad company, they were very cross.

- They came to Jesus' disciples and asked them: "*Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?*" (Matthew 9:11)
- Jesus said this to them: "*It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.*" (Matthew 9:12)

When Jesus said this, He wasn't saying that the tax collectors and the sinners had spots, or that they had a sore throat or had measles.

- What Jesus meant was that these people were **spiritually sick** and needed Him to heal them.

But do you think it was just the tax collectors and the sinners who needed Jesus' help?

*(Receive responses)*

- No, it wasn't.
- We need Jesus because we all do wrong things and think wrong things because although we may not realise it, we are all spiritually sick too!
- Let's give thanks today that Jesus can help us get spiritually well.