

GOSPEL PEARLS

Mortal sins on our conscience

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Jesus went out to the shore of the lake; and all the people came to him, and he taught them. As he was walking on he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus, sitting by the customs house, and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him. When Jesus was at dinner in his house, a number of tax collectors and sinners were also sitting at the table with Jesus and his disciples; for there were many of them among his followers. When the scribes of the Pharisee party saw him eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, 'Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?' When Jesus heard this he said to them, 'It is not the

healthy who need the doctor, but the sick. I did not come to call the virtuous, but sinners. (Mark 2, 13-17)

To get well, a patient needs to admit they have a problem and must go to the doctor to be treated, otherwise they could even die. This is what we should all do with Jesus, the doctor of our soul. If we are so proud that we think that we are free from serious sins, we will never turn to Jesus for help in reaching eternal life. Let's confess even if we don't have mortal sins on our conscience. The sacrament gives us the grace of God and for this reason it is also essential to stop us falling into more serious temptations.