

THE

# TURNAROUND

Even great kids (like you) can slip up and get into some bad habits. When that happens, it's time for a turnaround!



Jada has prayed about her treatment of Olivia. What do you think she should do next?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

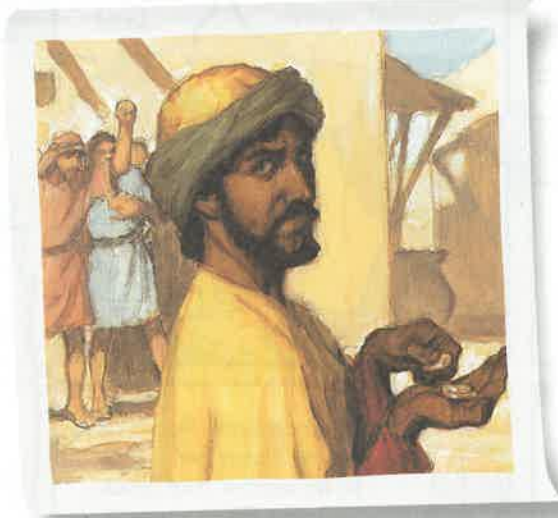
What would Jada say to Olivia to show her Jesus' love?



## THE HAPPY ENDING

If Jada continues her "turnaround," how do you think she will treat Olivia? How might Olivia treat others?

# THANKS FOR LOVING ME!



**J**esus taught people about God and called them to follow Him. He also healed people of all kinds of diseases. Jesus often went into people's homes and healed them. After healing a man who couldn't walk, Jesus left the house and found a tax collector sitting in his booth.

**Read Luke 5:27-28. What did Jesus say to Levi?<sup>1</sup> What did Levi do?**

The people of Capernaum<sup>2</sup> hated tax collectors. Most tax collectors

<sup>3</sup>Tax collectors took Roman taxes equaling a fourth or fifth of what was earned. The Roman government also allowed them to take any extra they could get away with, which angered the people.



cheated the people and took too much money from them.<sup>3</sup>



**Luke 5:29-32**

Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his

house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and 'sinners'?"

**Who was invited to Levi's dinner? What was the complaint the**

<sup>1</sup>Pronounced LEE-vi.

<sup>2</sup>Pronounced kuh-PURR-nee-um.



**Pharisees<sup>4</sup> and teachers made to Jesus? Why do you think they did this?**

*Jesus answered them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."*

**How did Jesus answer the Pharisees and teachers? Why do you think Jesus chose to spend time with tax collectors? How does Jesus feel about sinners?**

Levi was called Matthew,<sup>5</sup> and he became one of Jesus' 12 disciples. He also wrote the Book of Matthew in the Bible.

<sup>5</sup>The name Matthew means "gift of the Lord."

<sup>4</sup>Pharisees followed a strict code of behavior, based on their ideas of God's laws. They often considered themselves better than others and would refuse to accept other people "lower" than themselves.



# DEAR GOD...

We have seen how Jesus showed His love to Matthew, in spite of his sin. Jesus has promised to love us as well, even though we sin. Read these two prayers below. Write your response in the spaces. Keep the Prayer Journal page this week and list ways that you know Jesus loves you . . . even when you sin.



Dear God,  
I know I've done some things this week that make Jesus sad. Here are some of them:

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Dear God,  
Thinking about how much Jesus loves me, even when I make Him sad, makes me feel:

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## KEY VERSE

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

1 John 1:9

# PRAYER JOURNAL

Dear God,  
Help me to remember that You love me anyway! Thank You, Jesus, for loving me even when I sin!

MONDAY \_\_\_\_\_

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TUESDAY \_\_\_\_\_

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WEDNESDAY \_\_\_\_\_

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THURSDAY \_\_\_\_\_

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FRIDAY \_\_\_\_\_

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SATURDAY \_\_\_\_\_

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