

Messy

Zacchaeus - September 26, 2021

Jesus entered Jericho and made his way through the town. There was a man there named Zacchaeus. He was the chief tax collector in the region, and he had become very rich. He tried to get a look at Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree beside the road, for Jesus was going to pass that way.

When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. "Zacchaeus!" he said. "Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today." Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy.

But the people were displeased. "He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner," they grumbled. Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, "I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!"

*Jesus responded, "Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."
Luke 19:1-10 NLT*

- **Life is Messy**
- **Real Change Only Begins When We Encounter God**
- **The Healing that Jesus Offers Isn't Just Physical**
- **The First Step Towards Real Life Change is Humility**
- **Lost People Encountering God - This is Jesus Top Priority**

Group Questions:

- 1. *Why do you think that Zacchaeus was so eager to meet Jesus?***
- 2. *Have you ever felt like an outcast or like you don't measure up? What other ways do you identify with Zacchaeus?***
- 3. *Why is comparison such an unhelpful measuring stick in terms of our relationship with God?***
- 4. *Have you ever written someone off because you thought that they were too far gone or experienced something similar?***
- 5. *Why do you think that Zacchaeus was so happy that Jesus called him down from the tree?***
- 6. *What do you think that Zacchaeus' life was like after encountering Jesus, and how should we live in light of his story in Luke 19?***