

# **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?**