LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

BEFORE & AFTER: HOW JESUS TRANSFORMS OUR LIVES

Sermon Text: Luke 19:1-10
Date: November 15, 2026

OVERVIEW

Despite his wealth and influence, Zacchaeus was left empty by his pursuit of riches. But when Jesus graciously sought him out, Zacchaeus experienced salvation and a transformed heart. His newfound generosity wasn't an attempt to earn God's favor, but a response to the grace he had received. Likewise, the gospel frees us from greed and self-centeredness, transforming our hearts to find satisfaction in Christ and reflect His love through generosity toward others.

Related Scriptures: Ecclesiastes 5:10; Matthew 6:21, 33; 1 Timothy 6:10; 2 Corinthians 9:7; Ephesians 2:8–9; Leviticus 5:16; Numbers 5:7

1. What stood out to you from the sermon or passage? Was there anything that encouraged you, challenged you, or helped you see Jesus or the gospel more clearly?

Read: Luke 19:1-4

2. Why do you think wealth and possessions can be so appealing as sources of happiness, identity, or security? How have you experienced the limitations of looking to material things for lasting satisfaction?

3. Pastor Jared provided four questions to help us recognize the presence of greed in our hearts: ***Am I able to enjoy, be thankful, and satisfied with God's provision in my life? Where do I find my greatest sense of security? Has the pursuit or love of money come at the expense of my relationships? Am I compelled to give generously or does giving make me anxious, uncomfortable, or resentful?*** Which of these questions most challenges you personally, and how might trusting Christ help reshape your perspective in that area?

Read: Luke 19:5-7

4. Rather than avoiding Zacchaeus because of his reputation and sin, Jesus intentionally sought him out and extended grace to him. What does this encounter reveal about the heart of Jesus toward sinners? How should remembering the undeserved grace we've received in Christ shape the way we view and engage people whom others might reject or avoid?

Read: Luke 19:8–10 & Ephesians 2:8–9

5. Zacchaeus responded to Jesus with extraordinary generosity and a willingness to make restitution for his wrongdoing. What does his response teach us about the relationship between salvation by grace and a transformed life? How can we distinguish between generosity motivated by gratitude for God's grace and generosity motivated by a desire to earn His approval?

6. What might gospel-motivated generosity look like beyond simply giving money? How can remembering Christ's generosity toward us compel us to be more generous with our time, resources, relationships, and opportunities to serve others?

