



Small Group Study Guide
SERMON: The Wee Little Rich Man
and What He Left Behind
February 8, 2026 | CrossPointe Church
Tracy "PT" Pounders, Pastor

INTRODUCTION

In the sermon "The Wee Little Rich Man," PT explores the story of Zacchaeus, a wealthy tax collector who seeks Jesus while experiencing societal rejection in his personal life. This passage from Luke 19 serves as a powerful reminder of the transformative encounter that Zacchaeus has with Christ. Through his journey of climbing a sycamore tree to see Jesus, we catch a glimpse of the urgency of faith, the importance of personal repentance, and the call to actively engage in our communities. Ultimately, Zacchaeus's story invites us to consider what we might need to leave behind in our pursuit of a deeper relationship with Christ.

KEY SCRIPTURES

1. **Luke 19:1-2.** *Summary:* Jesus enters Jericho, where Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector and wealthy man, resides. The context highlights the wealth contrasted with social exclusion.
2. **Luke 19:3-4.** *Summary:* Zacchaeus seeks to see Jesus but struggles due to the crowd and his short stature. He overcomes this by climbing a Sycamore tree, symbolizing his desire for a deeper understanding of who Jesus is.
3. **Luke 19:5-6.** *Summary:* Jesus acknowledges Zacchaeus, asking to stay at his house, which symbolically represents grace and the urgency of Jesus' mission to reach the outcast.
4. **Luke 19:7-10.** *Summary:* The crowd reacts negatively to Jesus associating with Zacchaeus, illustrating societal judgment. Yet Jesus highlights that salvation is for all, emphasizing that He came to seek and save the lost.
5. **Acts 17:22-31.** *Summary:* In Athens, Paul addresses the people, explaining the nature of the true God. He emphasizes that God is not distant and challenges the audience to recognize Him through the recent resurrection of Jesus. The passage reveals the different responses to the message of the Gospel (Some mocked, some delayed, some believed), paralleling the reactions seen in Zacchaeus's story.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does Zacchaeus's position as a chief tax collector reveal about societal expectations of wealth and morality? What have you witnessed from those of affluence in our modern-day culture? How do you feel about them, honestly? (Luke 19:1-2)
2. Does Zacchaeus's determination to see Jesus inspire you to seek Christ in your own life? Has anything in your life created urgency recently to "see Jesus"? (Luke 19:3-4)
3. Jesus chose to stay with Zacchaeus. Does this challenge your understanding of who deserves grace? Do you know people that you feel don't deserve it? Explain. (Luke 19:5-6)
4. Why do you think the crowd grumbles at Jesus's actions toward Zacchaeus? How do we sometimes mirror this grumbling attitude in our own lives? (Luke 19:7)

5. How does Zacchaeus's response to Jesus reflect true repentance, and what does it teach us about the nature of change in our lives? Unpack this question honestly. (Luke 19:8)
6. In Acts 17, Paul's message provoked different reactions from the people? PT said, "**Some mocked, some delayed, some believed.**" What does this teach us about sharing the Gospel today? (Acts 17:22-31)
7. Do you struggle to share your faith because of rejection/people mocking your faith? Why and how can you move past it to reach the people who will "believe?" (Acts 17:32-34)
8. PT suggested that relational restitution is something we should all consider. What do you think is a good first step to reconciling a broken relationship (as a believer)? (Luke 19:8)
9. What distractions compete for your attention that might prevent you from engaging fully with Jesus? How can you "climb your sycamore tree" to make sure you don't miss Him in those opportune moments in your own life? (Sermon Theme)

PASTOR'S BEST QUOTES

- *"Zacchaeus symbolized betrayal and exploitation. He was physically rich, but socially poor."*
- *"Symbolically, the Sycamore tree represents intentional action: stepping out of your routine, leaving your place of comfort, creating space to encounter something bigger than your present circumstances."*
- *"Don't let culture sedate you into a delayed response. People who hesitate often miss their moment."*
- *"True transformation moves from creed to character."*

ACTION PROMPTS

1. **Invite Three:** Each group member should invite three people outside their faith circle to a church service or small group meeting (if you have room in your group!)
2. **Listen One Hour:** Set aside one hour this week to actively listen to someone in need without offering solutions—just presence.
3. **Repair One Thing:** Identify and take one action to repair a broken relationship or rectify a past wrong.

CLOSING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the opportunity to come together in this study. As we reflect on Zacchaeus's encounter with Jesus, we ask that You help us recognize the areas in our lives where we need to grow and change. May we be inspired by Zacchaeus's urgency to seek You. We pray for everyone who attends CrossPointe, that they may grow in their faith and find their small group community. Let us be a welcoming presence for those who are searching and invite them to join us for Sunday services. In Jesus's name, we pray. Amen.

**PLEASE TAKE A GROUP PICTURE AND TAG PT (Franklin Tracy Pounds)
and Tabatha Pankey ON FACEBOOK !!!**