

OVERHEARD CONVERSATIONS WITH JESUS

Kelly Walter | April 6-7, 2024

Week 2: When Jesus Comes to Dinner

4 FALSE WAYS WE JUDGE OUR WORTH

By _____ How do I look? 1 Samuel 16:7
By _____ What do I own? Matthew 16:26
By _____ What have I done? Psalm 127:1
By _____ How well am I liked? Proverbs 29:25

1 Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. 2 A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. 3 He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. 4 So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

5 When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." 6 So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

7 All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

8 But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

9 Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

Luke 19:1-10 (NIV)

4 TRUTHS ABOUT HOW MUCH YOU MATTER TO GOD

1. NO MATTER HOW SMALL I FEEL, JESUS _____

"...because he was short... When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up" Luke 10: 3 & 5

"...God never overlooks a single sparrow. And he pays even greater attention to you, down to the last detail - even numbering the hairs on your head!" Luke 12:6- 7 (MSG)

2. NO MATTER WHO IGNORES ME, JESUS _____

...Jesus looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name "Zacchaeus!" he said. Luke 19:5b (LB)

"Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for a child she has borne? Even if that were possible, I would never forget you! See, I have engraved your name on the palms of My hand." Isaiah 49:15-16 (NLT)

3. NO MATTER WHAT I'VE DONE, JESUS _____

Jesus said, "'Come down quickly! For I am going to be a guest in your home today!'" Luke 19:5c (LB)

"I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and eat with you, and you with me."
Revelation 3:20 (NCV)

4. NO MATTER WHAT OTHERS SAY, JESUS _____

All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." Luke 19:7 (NIV)

... this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19:9c-10

HOW SHOULD I RESPOND TO JESUS?

Zacchaeus came down at once and received Jesus with joy.
Luke 19:6

THE RESULT

Zacchaeus said... "I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Luke 19:8 (NIV)

Jesus responded, "Salvation has come to this home today!"
Luke 19:9 (NCV)

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By AFFLUENCE What do I own? Matthew 16:26
By ACHIEVEMENT What have I done? Psalm 127:1
By APPROVAL How well am I liked? Proverbs 29:25

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Luke 19:1-10 (NIV)

4 TRUTHS ABOUT HOW MUCH YOU MATTER TO GOD

1. NO MATTER HOW SMALL I FEEL, JESUS NOTICES ME

"...because he was short... When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up" Luke 10: 3 & 5

"...God never overlooks a single sparrow. And he pays even greater attention to you, down to the last detail - even numbering the hairs on your head!" Luke 12:6- 7 (MSG)

2. NO MATTER WHO IGNORES ME, JESUS KNOWS ME

...Jesus looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name "Zacchaeus!" he said. Luke 19:5b (LB)

"Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for a child she has borne? Even if that were possible, I would never forget you! See, I have engraved your name on the palms of My hand." Isaiah 49:15-16 (NLT)

3. NO MATTER WHAT I'VE DONE, JESUS WANTS ME

Jesus said, "'Come down quickly! For I am going to be a guest in your home today!'" Luke 19:5c (LB)

"I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and eat with you, and you with me."
Revelation 3:20 (NCV)

4. NO MATTER WHAT OTHERS SAY, JESUS AFFIRMS ME

All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." Luke 19:7 (NIV)

... this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19:9c-10

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WHEN JESUS COMES TO DINNER

Talk-it-Over Notes | April 6-7, 2024

REVIEW IT

The world gives us false ways in which our value is judged. Appearance - How do I look? Affluence - What do I own? Achievement - What have I done? Approval - How well am I liked? When we make decisions, both small daily ones and huge life-impacting ones, based on these values... our sense of self-worth gets corrupted, and we get the wrong results that drag us to places we never want to go.

Zacchaeus had lived his life based on the wrong value outlook. He didn't like his appearance. He was not proud of the way he acquired his wealth or status among the people of Jericho. Until he met Jesus. In such a short interaction, Zacchaeus experienced Jesus' view of showing value to others. A way, not based on the world or condemnation, but of love and truth.

No matter how small I feel, Jesus notices me. No matter who ignores me, Jesus knows me. No matter what I've done, Jesus wants me. No matter what others say, Jesus affirms me.

*When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him,
"Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today."
So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.
Luke 19:5-6 (NIV)*

Spend some time in the Word: Read Luke 19:1-10

TALK ABOUT IT

1. What stood out to you in this weekend's sermon? Was there something that you had never heard or realized before?
2. Zacchaeus felt miserable about his life, yet Jesus stopped in His journey to look up, pick him out of the crowd, and notice him in the tree. Our feelings about ourselves can be hiding the truth. How does it feel to know that Jesus sees you, notices you, and that you are important to Him? What lies that you may have been believing about yourself have been proven wrong?
3. What does it feel like to be ignored... to have the "real" you be unknown? Jesus called Zacchaeus by name and knew his heart. Jesus does the same for you. How might your life be different knowing that Jesus affirms you and does not condemn you or your past?
4. Jesus took the initiative — telling Zacchaeus that He wanted to have dinner with him. Jesus has taken the first step with you, as well. What does this mean to you about your worth? Who else in your life needs to have their view of self-worth changed?

ACT ON IT/PRAY ABOUT IT

How should I respond to Jesus? Are you "up a tree" because of a false view of self or because of sin? Know that Jesus is calling to you to come down from your tree and have a relationship with Him. The right response leads to a changed heart and a changed life. What is the evidence in your life that you made the right response to Jesus' call? Ask the Holy Spirit to help you see the things in your life that may need to better reflect a changed heart.