

Main Idea

Jesus seeks out people who feel unseen, disqualified, or stuck in their past. His grace meets us before we change, but it never leaves us unchanged. When we truly encounter Jesus, we see Him clearly, receive His invitation personally, and respond with joyful obedience that transforms our lives and influences others.

1. Seeing Jesus Clearly: Read Luke 19:1–4

Leader Insight

Zacchaeus represents the spiritual seeker. He had wealth but still felt something missing. His curiosity is a reminder that God is already stirring hearts before people fully understand who Jesus is.

Discussion Questions

1. **What “grace-points” can you identify in your own life?**
Moments when God seemed to be drawing you toward Him, even before you fully understood what He was doing?
2. **What kept Zacchaeus from seeing Jesus clearly?**
 - The crowd
 - His limitations
 - His reputation

What things in our own lives often prevent us from seeing Jesus clearly?

(Busyness, pride, guilt, distractions, other people’s opinions, past mistakes, etc.)

3. Zacchaeus ran ahead and climbed a tree just to see Jesus.
What does his effort tell us about spiritual hunger?

2. Being Seen by Jesus: Read Luke 19:5–7

Leader Insight

Grace always moves toward people before they fix themselves. Jesus did not wait for Zacchaeus to clean up his life before extending relationship. Transformation begins with being known and loved by Christ.

Discussion Questions

4. **How did other people view Zacchaeus?**
How did Jesus see him?

5. **Are there people in your life today that you need to see from Jesus' perspective rather than the crowd's perspective?**
6. **In what ways is Jesus' invitation to Zacchaeus surprising?**
Why do you think Jesus chose to go to his house?
7. **Can you think of any times when God has done unexpected things in your life?**
Moments when His grace showed up in ways you didn't anticipate?
8. **Jesus gave Zacchaeus a second chance. He will also do the same for you.**
Is there any area of your spiritual life where you may have given up but may need to try again?

3. Responding to Jesus: Read Luke 19:8–10

Leader Insight

True encounters with Jesus lead to visible life change. Salvation is not simply belief in Jesus; it produces repentance, generosity, and a new direction.

Discussion Questions

9. **What was Zacchaeus' response to Jesus?**
10. **Can you think of a time when you said an immediate "yes" to God?**
11. **Is God nudging you in any way today that requires an immediate response of obedience?**
12. **If Jesus unexpectedly came to our house today, what would He find?**
 - What would He celebrate?
 - What might He challenge?
13. **How do you think Jesus' actions and Zacchaeus' response affected the people who witnessed it that day?**
14. **How can we respond to Jesus in ways that encourage others to commit their lives to Him?**

Closing Reflection

The story of Zacchaeus reminds us that:

- Jesus sees us even when we feel hidden.
- Jesus moves toward us before we fix ourselves.
- When we encounter Jesus, our lives begin to change.

Zacchaeus climbed a tree just hoping to see Jesus.

Instead, he discovered that **Jesus had come looking for him all along.**

Small Group Guide
Sermon Topic: Relaunch

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