

Luke 19: 1-10



What are all the things you can you work out about Zacchaeus from Luke 19:1-10.

Zacchaeus was a chief tax-collector, who must have been in charge of an extensive operation for tolls and other charges in Jericho a busy border city. The Roman Empire sub-contracted tax collection so the collectors were collaborators with the oppressing forces, and from a Jewish point of view were unclean from their association with the Romans. The collectors made their profit by increasing the tax charge and the system was open to greed and corruption (see Lk 3:12–13). Jewish Rabbi's consistently compared tax collectors to robbers. No wonder then, that in the gospels the tax-collectors are considered the worst of sinners by Jewish authorities (Matt 9:11; 11:19; Luke 5:30; 7:34).

Why, do you think, was Zacchaeus interested in Jesus? Why did he have to climb a tree to see Jesus?

Jesus uses a very strong term to say he “must” go to Zacchaeus place (v5). The same word is used earlier in Luke to imply that something is God's will (e.g. Lk 2:49; 4:43; 9:22; 17:25). Why do you think Jesus insisted on coming to Zacchaeus place? What do you think Zacchaeus felt about Jesus inviting himself?

Do you have a time in your life that is like Zacchaeus experience with Jesus?

How is Zacchaeus a model of a proper response to Jesus? (What does his response suggest about Jesus' instruction to the rich ruler in 18:22). Does repentance always have financial implications?

What areas of your life have changed and should change because you have met Jesus?

What does Jesus mean that “salvation” has come to Zacchaeus house?

How does Zacchaeus show the fulfillment of Jesus' mission? See Lk 1:77; 5:32; 15:4-6; 8; 24; 32.

Look back over Luke's gospel. Who are some of the other unlikely people to whom Jesus brought salvation?

How can the story of Zacchaeus change our view of people around us?

How can the story of Zacchaeus change our view of ourselves?

The story of Zacchaeus is about joy and salvation. In what ways does it remind you to rejoice in God's salvation and thank him?