

Jesus Changed My Life-One Look is Enough-September 26 & 29, 2019

Scripture: Luke 19.1-10

Luke 19.1-10 (NIV)

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

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

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

⁸But 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.”

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

Read and Discuss

Introduction

Pastor Jacob taught the first message in our *Jesus Changed My Life* series. For the next month we'll be hearing stories of people who had their lives completely changed by Jesus. Sometimes people have an encounter with Jesus that turns things upside down. It becomes the defining story in their life. This is true of the tax collector named Zacchaeus. He was known to be a cheater and a sinner, yet Jesus noticed him. His whole life—his heart, his household, his business, everything was different because of Jesus.

Engage the Scripture

- As you read Luke 19.1-10, place yourself on the street of Jericho. What is your perspective on Jesus? What does the crowd look like? How do you respond to those who speak out against this Jesus who spends time with sinners?
- Pastor Jacob pointed out that Jesus was referred to by his name for most of the story—until Jesus has come to Zacchaeus' house. Then Zacchaeus (and Luke) refers to him as Lord. It's a significant shift. We can know Jesus on a personal level, and when we do that leads to us giving him authority over our life. What part of your life is securely under Jesus' Lordship? What parts of your life do you remain lord of?

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- Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Jesus. It led to Jesus seeing him. Where do you go to see Jesus? What heights have you gone to so that Jesus could notice you? Jacob guessed that for many of us, worship is our sycamore tree. We know Jesus is going to pass this way and so we come to catch a glimpse. What are your sycamore trees?
- Jesus called to Zacchaeus to come down from the tree. There is more to the Christian life than seeing Jesus. The next move is to say yes to Jesus who will invite himself to your house! What concerns go through your mind when someone invites themselves over to your house?
- Verse 10 says that Jesus “came to seek and to save the lost”. When have you felt the most lost in your life? When have you felt the most found? How would you state your mission in one sentence? Where does it intersect with Jesus’ purpose?

Prayer

God, I give you my life. I confess that your Son Jesus Christ is Lord. See me, call me by name, come to my house and save me with your amazing grace. Amen.