

JESUS LOVES ZACCHAEUS

At that time, Jesus came to a place called Jericho. There was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a tax collector and rich. He wanted to see Jesus. He could not because he was short, so he climbed a tree. When Jesus came near, he looked up and saw Zacchaeus. Jesus said, “Zacchaeus, hurry up and come down. I want to stay at your house today. Zacchaeus came down and was very happy to have Jesus in his house.

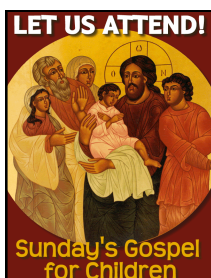
The others in the crowd said, “Jesus has come to the house of a sinner.” Zacchaeus heard what they said and turned to the Lord. “Lord,” he said, “I give half of what I have to the poor. If I have cheated someone, I give them back four times what they lost.” Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, for I came to seek and save those who are lost.”



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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What was the man’s name who wanted to see Jesus?
2. What did he do to see Jesus?
3. What did Jesus say to him when he saw him in the tree?
4. The people said that Zacchaeus was not a good man and that Jesus should not go with him.
5. Jesus always knows what is in our hearts. He loves us even if we have done something wrong.
6. What would you talk to Jesus about if He came to your house?



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Pre-12



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One day, our Lord Jesus Christ was walking through the city of Jericho. Many people were with Him. A man named Zacchaeus was there too. Zacchaeus was a tax collector. In those days, tax collectors often got rich from taking extra taxes from people and keeping the extra money for themselves. Zacchaeus was a rich man. Zacchaeus also was not very tall. When the crowd was passing by, he wanted to see who Jesus was. But because Zacchaeus was short, he could not see over the crowd.

There was a sycamore tree growing nearby. Sycamore trees can grow to be very high. Zacchaeus saw the tall tree and climbed it. Now he could see who Jesus was!

When Jesus came by the place where Zacchaeus was, He looked up into the tree. Then He said, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for I must stay at your house today!"

Zacchaeus hurried down the tree. He very happily welcomed Jesus into his home. People who saw this said to each other, "Jesus has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

But Zacchaeus' heart was changed. He said to Jesus, "I will give half of my stuff to people who are poor. And anyone that I cheated, I will repay four times as much as I took from them."

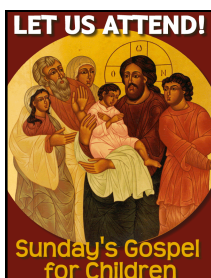
Jesus said, "Today salvation has come to this house. For I came to find and save people like Zacchaeus who are lost."



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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Who wanted to see Jesus?
2. Why couldn't he see Jesus?
3. What did Jesus say when He saw Zacchaeus?
4. Does Jesus love Zacchaeus? What makes you think that? Jesus loves us, too, even when we sin.
5. Zacchaeus let Jesus change his heart. Jesus said Zacchaeus and his household were being saved. What about you? What can you ask Jesus to change in your heart today to help you be saved?



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At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, for he was to pass that way.

And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully.

And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the

guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold."

And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

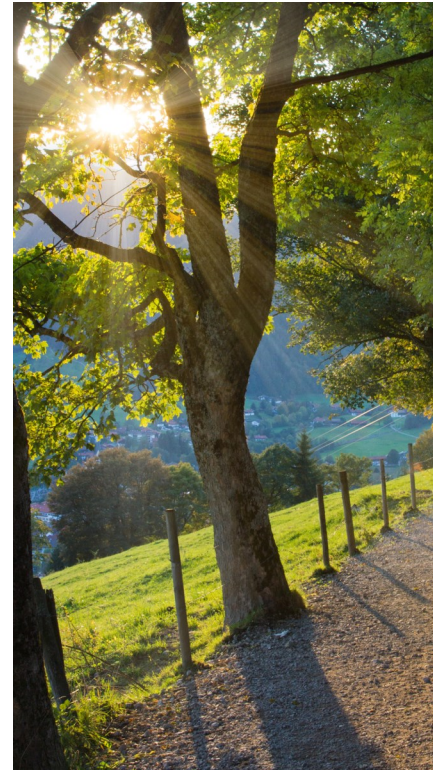
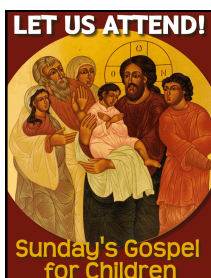


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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Who was trying to see Jesus? Why couldn't he see Him?
2. What did he do to fix his problem?
3. When did Jesus see him?
4. Where did Jesus go after he saw Zacchaeus? How did others in the crowd respond?
5. After seeing Jesus, Zacchaeus gave away half of what he owned. Why?
6. How can you see Jesus? What action can you take to change your life to be more like Him?



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JESUS CALLS ZACCHAEUS

Characters: Narrator, Jesus, People, Zacchaeus

Narrator: At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him,

Jesus: Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today.

Narrator: So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured,

People: He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.

Narrator: And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord,

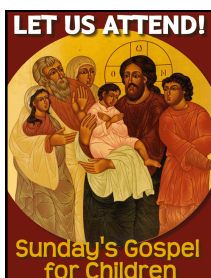
Zacchaeus: Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold.

Narrator: And Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost.



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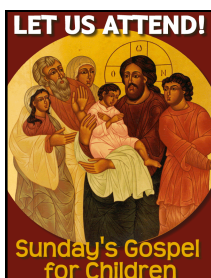
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to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What was Zacchaeus trying to do?
2. What or who got in his way?
3. How does he solve this problem?
4. What gets in your way when you are trying to see who Jesus is? What makes it hard for you see him sometimes?
5. How can you go around that problem or change your approach so you can see Jesus from a different place?



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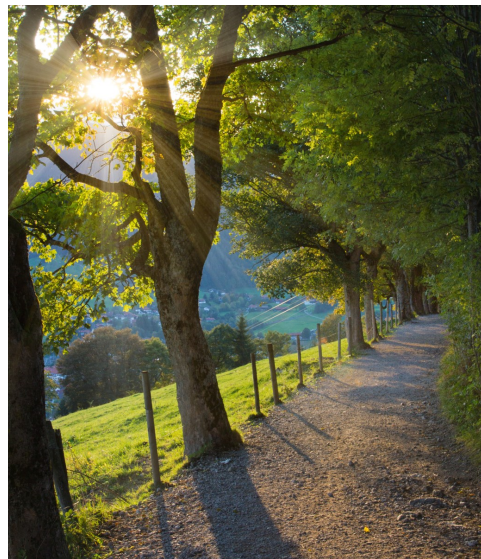
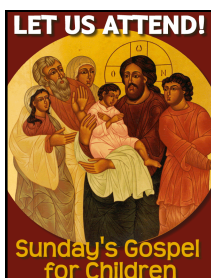


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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What does the crowd say about Zacchaeus when Jesus tells him he is going to his house?
2. Why do you think the crowd called him a sinner and grumbled?
3. Do you think they were right? Was Zacchaeus a sinner?
4. How does Zacchaeus respond to the crowd's accusations?
5. What does Jesus then say about Zacchaeus?
6. What does this suggest about sin? About repentance?



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