

Small Group and Personal Bible Study Guide

This Weeks Memory Verse: Luke 19:10

“For the Son of Man came to seek and save what was lost.”

This Weeks Lesson: Luke 19:1-10 Zacchaeus

This is another one of those stories many of us learned as a child in Sunday school. In this story we see how Zacchaeus has an encounter with Christ that changes his life forever.

1. How does it encourage you to know Jesus welcomes sinners?

Always remembering that Jesus loves unconditionally and welcomes sinners is an encouragement not only for myself but it encourages me for the people I know and love who don't know Jesus. It reminds me of a song chorus by Casting Crowns that declares the truth: “Not because of who I am, but because of what He's done. Not because of what I've done, but because of who He is!” This moves me to share the gospel loud and clear and unconditionally.

2. Read Luke 15:1-7, The Parable of the Lost Sheep. What is the truth found in Luke 15:1-7 about Jesus, that is demonstrated in the story of Zacchaeus?

The Lord loves everyone so much that He gave his life. He desires that no one would perish. He pursued Zacchaeus out of love and he pursues people today. 2 Peter 3:9 reminds me that He does not want anyone to perish but to come to repentance.

3. Have you experienced the kind of changed heart that Zacchaeus declared after his encounter with Jesus?

Zacchaeus declared that he was going to repay anyone he had cheated four times. Jesus didn't tell him to repay or require anything from him. But a relationship with Jesus changed the heart of Zacchaeus and it was an overflow of his new relationship with Christ.

4. In our reading this week we have read about and observed several examples of Jesus redeeming and restoring relationships that allow a changed life. What are the similarities that you picked up from the stories about Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10), The Sinful Woman (Luke 7:36-50), The Sick Woman (Mark 5:24-34) and Mary (Luke 10:38-42)?

One thing I notice is that in every case, the people were moved to come near to Jesus. They were seeking! When they came face to face with Him, they each recognized Jesus for who he is. They each worshiped Him in their own way.

This Weeks Reading Schedule:

This week we will read a number of bible stories from the gospels about the passionate redemption and complete restoration that comes through Christ. Ultimately each of these people are drawn into a deep love relationship with Jesus.

Day 1: Luke 15:1-7 The Parable of the Lost Sheep

Day 2: Luke 19:1-10 Zacchaeus, the Tax Collector

Day 3: Luke 7:36-50 Jesus Anointed by a Sinful Woman

Day 4: Mark 5:24-34 The Sick Woman in the Crowd

Day 5: Luke 10:38-42 Jesus at the Home of Martha and Mary