

**The Savior Who Seeks
Zacchaeus
Luke 19:1-10
March 27, 2016**

Zacchaeus means “**righteous** one”.

An encounter with Jesus totally changes you:

1) Zacchaeus, a grown man, became like a child.

So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. **Luke 19:4**

Remember, Zacchaeus was the chief of tax collectors, he would have been very rich.

“In the East, it is unusual for a man to run, especially a wealthy government official; yet Zacchaeus ran down the street like a little boy following a parade. And he even climbed a tree! Curiosity is certainly characteristic of most children, and Zacchaeus was motivated by curiosity that day.” ~ Warren Wiersbe

In his excitement to see Jesus, Zacchaeus was totally out of character.

When we are in need of Jesus or in a bad way, we won’t care what we look like when we are **running** after Jesus.

Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God like a little child shall in no way enter therein. **Luke 18:17**

Pride often keeps many “successful” people from coming to Jesus. Are you seeking to hold on to your dignity or will you let go and run after Jesus?

2) A seeking man was found

Zacchaeus thought he was seeking Jesus...

As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God.” **Romans 3:10-11**

... but Jesus was seeking him.

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost. **Luke 19:10**

We are not privy to how God may have been working in his life, or to whom He was using, but God was definitely working.

3) **Little became much with a Jesus encounter (verse 7-8)**

We do not measure up in God's kingdom for our righteousness is like filthy rags.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Romans 3:23

But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner."

Luke 19:7

We often think we are "big" as we measure ourselves in terms of money, position, authority, popularity and who we know. Though all we "have" is nothing, and in comparison to knowing God, does not even measure up.

An obvious encounter took place between verses 7-8. Zacchaeus' encounter with Jesus changed him.

4) **A poor man (God's terms) became rich.**

He was a bankrupt sinner, utterly broke and helpless.

He received the best and most "expensive" gift in the world.

"Zacchaeus was not saved because he promised to do good works. He was saved because he responded by faith to Christ's gracious word to him. Having trusted the Savior, he then gave evidence of his faith by promising to make restitution to those he had wronged. Saving faith is more than pious words and devout feelings. It creates a living union with Christ that results in a changed life (James 2:14-26). Under the Mosaic Law, if a thief voluntarily confessed his crime, he had to restore what he took, add one fifth to it, and bring a trespass offering to the Lord (Lev. 6:1-7). If he stole something he could not restore, he had to repay fourfold (Ex. 22:1); and if he was caught with the goods, he had to repay double (Ex. 22:4). Zacchaeus did not quibble over the terms of the Law; he offered to pay the highest price because his heart had truly been changed." ~ Warren Wiersbe

There are many evidences for the Resurrection, but the best evidence is a changed life!

Prayer Focus:

Have you met Jesus?

If so, does your life match whom you have met?

Are you encountering and walking with God daily?