

*Nurturing Faith...
Every Day in Every Way*

October 30, 2016

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalms 32:1-7

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Luke 19:1-10



Zacchaeus Goes Out on a Limb to Meet Jesus. Object: None.

Today's Bible lesson is about a man who was very short. His name is Zacchaeus. You all know his story. You learned it when you weren't much more than a baby and you learned this song on your mother's lap:

Zacchaeus was a wee, little man, And a wee, little man was he.
He climbed up in a sycamore tree, For the Lord he wanted to see.
And as the Savior passed that way, He looked up in the tree,
And he said, "Zacchaeus, you come down!"

For I'm going to your house today. For I'm going to your house today.

This is the whole story of Zacchaeus that we find in our Bible lesson today.

Jesus was traveling through the streets of Jericho, where a man named Zacchaeus lived. He was the tax collector and he desperately wanted to see Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd that lined the street. He ran ahead of the crowd and climbed up into a sycamore tree beside the road. Jesus would pass right by him and he would get a good view from the tree.

When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. "Zacchaeus!" he said. "Come down quickly. I am going to be a guest in your home today."

Zacchaeus scampered down from the tree and took Jesus to his house. The people in the crowd were shocked! You see, Zacchaeus was one of the most hated men in all of Jericho. Why did the people hate him? Because he was a thief and a cheat! He had become very rich by collecting more taxes than people owed and keeping it for himself. The people could not believe that Jesus would go to the home of a man like that!

Zacchaeus knew that he had cheated people and when he and Jesus arrived at his house, he confessed and said that he was sorry for what he had done. He said to Jesus, "I am going to give half of all that I own to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

Because Zacchaeus was sorry for what he had done and confessed his sin, Jesus forgave him and said, "Today salvation has come to this house. For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."

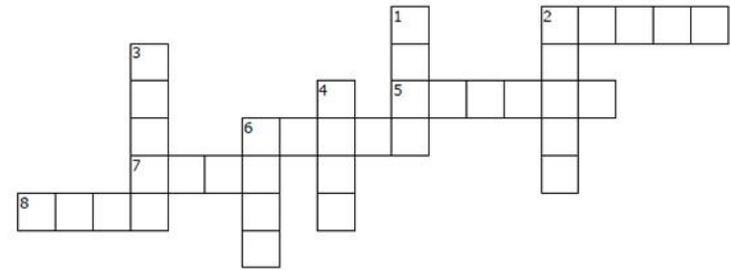
Yes, Zacchaeus was a wicked man! But when he met Jesus, his life was changed.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. Today salvation has come to this house, for the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost. Alleluia (Luke 19:9, 10)

Heavenly Father, we know that Jesus can change lives. Thank you for sending him into our world to seek and save the lost. In his name, we pray. Amen.

-Used by permission, sermons4kids

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- To move upward, especially by using the hands and feet
- A person who disobeys God's laws; one who does wrong
- Not tall
- To set free from sin; to rescue
- A large plant with a trunk, branches, and leaves

DOWN

- To be unable to find your way
- To get something for yourself in a dishonest way
- A building in which people, usually a family, live
- To have very little money
- To search for something or someone

poor	save	lost	climb	tree
short	sinner	house	cheat	seek

ZACCHAEUS HAND AND ARM TREE: Provide the child with a long piece of construction paper and trace the child's arm and opened hand onto the paper. Have the child color or paint the arm and hand brown and use a green ink pad to use their fingers to print leaves on their tree. Give each child a picture of Zacchaeus sitting so that the child can glue the little man to a tree branch (their outstretched thumb).



Jesus Visits Zacchaeus

JESUS AND ZACCHAEUS

LUK 19

