

Jesus Loves a Short, Bad Man

Luke 19



Jesus came to seek and save the lost.

Luke 19:10

Jesus Loves a Short, Bad Man

Most people in Jericho hated Zacchaeus. He was in charge of the tax collectors. He took more money than he should have. Jesus walked into Jericho. Happy crowds followed him.

Zacchaeus tried to see Jesus. But he could not see over the people. Zacchaeus was a short man. He jumped. Still, he could not see. He got a plan. Zacchaeus ran to a tree. He climbed up. Now, he could see Jesus as he walked past. Jesus stopped. He looked up and saw Zacchaeus.

Jesus said, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down. Today, I must stay at your house."

Zacchaeus could not believe it! His selfish heart became soft. He climbed down the tree quickly. "Jesus at my house?" he thought with joy.

The people grumbled, "Jesus is going to the house of a sinner."

Zacchaeus said, "Lord, I will give half of all I own to the poor. If I have cheated anyone, I will pay back four times as much." He was very rich.

Jesus said, "Today, this lost man is saved. For I have come to seek and save the lost."

Questions

1. What kind of man was Zaccheaus?
2. How did Jesus change him?
3. Jesus takes time for people who are without friends. Who is without a friend in your life? Can you try to become friends with him or her?
4. What did Zaccheaus do to show that his heart had been changed? What can you do?

Pray this Prayer:

Dear Jesus,
You became a friend to those whom others hated. You are a heart changer. Please change my heart too. Help me to love the lost, the hated, the hurting. Help me to show my love for you by becoming a giver.
Amen

Write some of the words Zaccheaus said after his heart had been changed.

