

LUKE 19:1–10

Gospel Visual: Follow-up Bible Study

FOCUS

1. Do you think people can really change? Why or why not?
2. Think about a home renovation, a weight loss journey, or a comeback story. What is it about those transformation moments that moves people?

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

- **The Gospel of Luke** is a New Testament book about the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- **Luke** was a physician and a careful historian who interviewed many eyewitnesses to compile an accurate, detailed account of Jesus' life.
- **Tax collectors** were Jews who collected taxes for the Roman government, which made them traitors in the eyes of their own people.
- **They grew wealthy** by collecting far more than what was owed and keeping the difference.
- **Zacchaeus** was not just a tax collector but the chief tax collector — powerful, wealthy, dishonest, and an outsider to his own community.
- **"Son of Abraham"** was a way of saying someone truly belonged among God's people. It is the opposite of how the crowd saw Zacchaeus.

STUDY

READ LUKE 19:1–10

1. What do we learn about Zacchaeus' life before his encounter with Jesus (v. 1–2)? Based on the Biblical Context above, what did tax collectors actually do that made people despise them?
2. What does Zacchaeus do to get a look at Jesus (v. 3–4)? How do people today try to get a "look" at Jesus?
3. What does Jesus say when He reaches the tree, and how does Zacchaeus receive Him (v. 5–6)? How is this a picture of God's role in our salvation — and of ours in responding to Him?
4. Why does the crowd grumble about Jesus spending time with Zacchaeus (v. 7)? What does that reveal about how they saw him? Give an example of what this might look like today.

5. After spending time with Jesus, what does Zacchaeus say he is going to do (v. 8)? What does giving to the poor and repaying what he stole reveal about what true faith looks like?

6. What does Jesus say His mission is (v. 10)? How does He do this in the story — and how does He still do it today?

APPLY

- 1. Look back at the gospel visual — where do you see Zacchaeus' story in that illustration?**
- 2. Zacchaeus didn't change himself. Jesus came to him, and everything changed. How have you seen Jesus change you? And if you haven't, why do you think that is?**
- 3. Zacchaeus' encounter with Jesus changed not just his eternity but his everyday life. What is one way you can grow deeper in your relationship with Jesus this week?**

REFLECT & CONNECT

Zacchaeus didn't find Jesus — Jesus found him. That is the heart of the gospel. No matter where you are in the gospel illustration right now, Jesus is not waiting for you to clean up your life before He pursues you. He stops, looks up, and calls you by name. The question is never whether He wants you — it's whether you're willing to come down from the tree. Zacchaeus' response was immediate and visible — his encounter with Jesus changed how he lived, how he spent his money, and how he treated the people around him. That is what restoration looks like in real life. This week, take one honest step toward where you want to be — and like Zacchaeus, let the people around you see the difference.