

MESSAGE SUMMARY

In Luke 19:1–10, Jesus meets Zacchaeus, a man known for his greed and corruption. As a chief tax collector, Zacchaeus had gained wealth by taking advantage of others. But everything changed when Jesus saw him, called him by name, and chose to stay at his house. Jesus wasn't just passing through Jericho; He was seeking out someone others had written off.

Zacchaeus' encounter with Jesus shows what the gospel does in every life it touches. **Before** Jesus, Zacchaeus was selfish and lost. **Meeting** Jesus, he experienced grace and joy. **After** meeting Jesus, his heart was transformed; he became sacrificially generous and made things right with those he had wronged.

This story reminds us that when grace enters our hearts, it doesn't just improve us; it transforms us. Jesus came "to seek and save the lost" (Luke 19:10). And when we truly receive His grace, it overflows through generosity, repentance, and a changed life.

MAIN POINTS**1. Before Jesus — Selfish and Lost**

Zacchaeus was wealthy but spiritually empty. His greed controlled his life. He was selfishly greedy.

- Luke 19:2–3 — "He was a chief tax collector and was rich... he was seeking to see who Jesus was."
- Romans 3:23 — "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

2. Meeting Jesus — Grace That Finds You

Jesus saw Zacchaeus, called him by name, and invited Himself into his life.

- Luke 19:5–6 — "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today."
- John 10:3 — "He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out."

3. After Jesus — A Transformed Heart Leads to a Generous Life

Zacchaeus went from greedy to sacrificially generous because grace changes everything.

- Luke 19:8–9 — "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor... Today salvation has come to this house."
- 2 Corinthians 9:6–8 — "God loves a cheerful giver."

Big Idea: Grace received becomes generosity shared

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Before: what desires, habits, or attitudes once defined your life before you fully surrendered to Jesus, and how do you see His grace freeing you from them today? **Reflection Aim:** This question invites honest self-awareness. It helps you identify what "selfishness" or "lostness" looked like personally and how God's mercy began to draw you toward Him (*Romans 3:23, 5:8*).

2. Meeting: where in your life has Jesus met you unexpectedly, calling you by name and inviting Himself into places you thought were too broken, too private, or too unworthy? **Reflection Aim:** This question helps you recall and celebrate the moment or season when Jesus' grace became real and personal. It focuses on His initiative, not your effort (*Luke 19:5, 19:10*).

3. After: how is Jesus calling you to live more generously today whether through your time, forgiveness, or resources so others can see the difference His grace has made in your life? **Reflection Aim:** This encourages you to put transformation into practice. Grace isn't just internal; it shows outwardly in how you give, serve, and restore (*Luke 19:8; 2 Corinthians 9:7*).

Application :

- 1) **Know** Your Story – Write out your 3-part Jesus story this week (Before Jesus – Meeting Jesus – After Jesus).
- 2) **Share** Your Story – Pray and share your story with one person this week.

GOSPEL CONNECTION

The story of Zacchaeus is really our story. We are all like him, lost in sin, seeking meaning, and unable to save ourselves. But Jesus came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). He meets us where we are, calls us by name, and invites Himself into our lives. His grace doesn't leave us the same; it transforms us from selfish to sacrificial, from greedy to generous, from lost to found.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

MONDAY – Jesus Sees You Where You Are

Key Verse: “And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.’” (*Luke 19:5*)

Reflection: Jesus didn’t overlook Zacchaeus, even though the crowd did. The same is true for you; Jesus sees you right where you are. He doesn’t wait for you to clean yourself up; He calls you by name and invites Himself into your life because of His grace, not your goodness.

Application Question: How does knowing that Jesus sees and calls you personally change the way you see yourself today?

Possible Answer: It reminds me that I’m not invisible or forgotten to God. He knows my name and has a purpose for my life, even when others overlook me.

Prayer Response: Jesus, thank You for seeing me, knowing me, and calling me into a relationship with You. Help me respond with joy and obedience today, in Jesus’ Name, Amen.

(Luke 19:1–10; Psalm 139:1–4; John 10:3; R.C. Sproul, *Luke: An Expositional Commentary* (Reformation Trust, 2015), p. 372)

TUESDAY – Grace That Transforms

Key Verse: “So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully.” (*Luke 19:6*)

Reflection: Zacchaeus didn’t hesitate; he welcomed Jesus with joy. True grace produces a joyful, willing response. When you truly encounter the grace of God, it doesn’t just touch your emotions; it changes your direction.

Application Question: What area of your life do you need to “come down” and invite Jesus into today? Possible Answer: I need to invite Him into my habits, my money choices, or my relationships. These are areas I’ve tried to control on my own instead of surrendering to Him.

Prayer Response: Lord, help me to come down from my pride, excuses, and fear. I open my heart and home to You today with joy, in Jesus’ Name, Amen.

(Luke 19:6; Revelation 3:20; Titus 2:11–12; John Stott, *Basic Christianity* (IVP, 2019), p. 95)

WEDNESDAY – From Selfish to Sacrificial

Key Verse: “Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.” (*Luke 19:8*)

Reflection: Zacchaeus didn’t give to earn salvation; he gave because he *had been saved*. A changed heart naturally leads to a changed life. When grace fills your heart, generosity overflows from it.

Application Question: Where can you practice sacrificial generosity this week in time, service, or giving? Possible Answer: I can give my time to someone who needs encouragement, share what I have with someone in need, or forgive a debt instead of holding a grudge.

Prayer Response: Jesus, make me generous like You. Help me live with open hands and a grateful heart, sharing what You’ve freely given me, in Jesus’ Name, Amen.

(Luke 19:8; 2 Corinthians 9:6–8; 1 Timothy 6:17–19; John Piper, *Desiring God* (Multnomah, 2003), pp. 105–107)

THURSDAY – Salvation Changes Everything

Key Verse: “Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham.” (*Luke 19:9*)

Reflection: Salvation isn’t just about forgiveness; it’s about transformation. Jesus didn’t just visit Zacchaeus’ house—He brought salvation into it. When Jesus enters your life, He changes your priorities, your values, and even how you treat others.

Application Question: What evidence of salvation and transformation do you see in your own life? Possible Answer: I see it in my desire to serve others, to forgive, and to live in a way that pleases God rather than myself.

Prayer Response: Lord, thank You for saving me and making me new. Keep transforming my heart so that others see You in the way I live, in Jesus’ Name, Amen.

(Luke 19:9; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Philippians 1:6; Warren Wiersbe, *Be Courageous (Luke 14–24)* (David C. Cook, 2010), p. 92)

FRIDAY – The Greater Story: Seek and Save the Lost

Key Verse: “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” (*Luke 19:10*)

Reflection: Jesus’ mission is still the same today; He seeks and saves lost people. Your story, like Zacchaeus’, is part of that greater story. When you share your testimony, you help others see that no one is too far gone for grace.

Application Question: Who can you pray for or share your story with this week so they can meet Jesus too? Possible Answer: A friend or family member who feels unworthy or distant from God; I can pray for them and look for a chance to share what Jesus has done in my life.

Prayer Response: Jesus, thank You for seeking and saving me. Give me courage to share my story and Your love with others who still need to hear it, in Jesus’ Name, Amen.

(Luke 19:10; Matthew 28:19–20; Acts 1:8; Billy Graham, *The Reason for My Hope: Salvation* (Thomas Nelson, 2013), pp. 15–16)