

**CREEK**  
**STUDENT**  
**MINISTRY**  
COTTONWOOD CREEK CHURCH

# SEEKING

A Series About Zacchaeus



## **Seeking: A Series About Zacchaeus**

By the end of this series, learners will understand the story of Zacchaeus and be able to understand that Zacchaeus did whatever he could to seek Jesus' attention.

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## **Man Becomes Child**

### **Week 1**

The goal of this lesson is to help the student understand how this wee little man named Zacchaeus rejoiced like a child as he ran down the street and climbed a sycamore tree so that he could be seen by Jesus.

### **Learning Activities**

- Book of Questions: What is the craziest thing one of your siblings or friend's siblings has done?

### **Learning Readiness**

Say: Today, we are focusing on how excited Zacchaeus was to see Jesus and how curious he was about Jesus.

Ask: What gets you excited about Jesus?

### **Bible Study**

**Lesson Objective**: The goal of this lesson is to help the student understand how this wee little man named Zacchaeus rejoiced like a child as he ran down the street and climbed a sycamore tree so that he could be seen by Jesus.

**Read**: Luke 19:1-4

**1** He entered Jericho and was passing through. **2** And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. **3** And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not,

**because he was small in stature. 4 So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way.**

### **Knowledge Questions**

1. What do we know about Zacchaeus according to this text?
2. Why did Zacchaeus climb up the tree?

### **Comprehension/Understanding Questions**

1. Describe what it means to seek Jesus.
2. Why do you think the crowds were following Jesus?

### **Applications Questions**

1. How did Zacchaeus become like a child when Jesus entered Jericho?
2. The Jewish people saw Zacchaeus as a renegade because he collected taxes and worked for the Gentiles. How do you think Jesus will see Zacchaeus?

### **Synthesis Questions**

1. Can you explain what keeps people from seeking Jesus?
2. Can you explain why a man who had everything (money, etc...) was still seeking Jesus?

### **Evaluation Questions**

1. What do you think motivated Zacchaeus to climb the tree?
2. If you were to evaluate your life, would you say you are curious about Jesus like Zacchaeus? Are you following the crowds?
3. Why do you think people are afraid to climb the tree of curiosity when it comes to their faith?

### **Conclusion**

Zacchaeus was curious about who Jesus was to the point where he climbed into a tree just to see him. He was looking for Christ and curious about who Jesus was. What about you, are you curious about who He is? Maybe you know him but have not been seeking Him, what better time than now! After all, we have savior in Jesus who seeks the lost!

### **Announcements**

Leaders communicate any announcements for your group and the ministry.

## **The Seeker Is Seen**

### **Week 2**

This lesson is about Zacchaeus seeking God and doing whatever he can to be seen.

#### **Learning Activities**

- Book of Questions: What is the best flavor of water?

#### **Learning Readiness**

Say: Today, we are focusing on the fact that Jesus does see us!

Ask: How do you think Jesus sees us?

#### **Bible Study**

Lesson Objective: To help the student understand that Jesus desires a relationship with them and that we should desire a relationship with Jesus.

Read: Luke 19:5-6

**5 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.” 6 So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully.**

#### **Knowledge Questions**

1. What has happened in this story between Jesus and Zacchaeus so far?
2. What did Zacchaeus do when Jesus called out his name?

#### **Comprehension/Understanding Questions**

1. Was Zacchaeus seeking Jesus or was Jesus seeking Zacchaeus?
2. What did Jesus ask of Zacchaeus?

### **Applications Questions**

1. How can we apply the way that Zacchaeus responded to Jesus to our lives?
2. Did Zacchaeus have to change anything about himself before coming to Jesus? Do we have to change our lives before coming to Jesus?

### **Synthesis Questions**

1. Can you explain why Zacchaeus was so joyful and excited to let Jesus into his home?
2. Can you explain why God wants us as we are and does not expect us to be perfect before we can have a relationship with him?

### **Evaluation Questions**

#### **READ: MARK 10:17-27**

1. Compare the rich young ruler and Zacchaeus' encounter with Jesus? How are they the same? How are they different?
2. Maybe some of you have been seeking a relationship with Jesus, maybe some of you want to seek a deeper relationship with Jesus. Explain how both of those are possible according to the text that has been given today.

### **Conclusion**

Jesus wants a relationship with us, plain and simple. Zacchaeus thought that he was seeking Jesus, but Jesus was seeking him. Jesus wants a relationship with all of us. I love how Zacchaeus responds when Jesus ask to stay at his house, the seeker has been seen and he is running to welcome him into his home.

### **Announcements**

Leaders communicate any announcements for your group and the ministry.

## **The Small Becomes Big**

### **Week 3**

The goal of this lesson is to help the student understand that Jesus is for everyone. He came to die for all of us and to have a relationship with us. The people in Jericho were not pleased that Jesus had helped a small tax collector who was a sinner. These people were measuring themselves by man's standards. We should strive to live by God's standards.

### **Learning Activities**

- Book of Questions: What is one fashion trend you hope never comes back? What is the worst fashion trend that has come back?

### **Learning Readiness**

Say: Today, we are focusing on how Zacchaeus was made fun of for being a sinner.

Ask: How does God view us?

### **Bible Study**

**Lesson Objective**: The goal of this lesson is to help the student understand that Jesus is for everyone. He came to die for all of us and to have a relationship with us. The people in Jericho were not pleased that Jesus had helped a small tax collector who was a sinner. These people were measuring themselves by man's standards. We should strive to live by God's standards.

**Read**: Luke 19:7-8

**7 And when they saw it, they all grumbled, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." 8 And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold,**



**Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.”**

### **Knowledge Questions**

1. What has happened in the story of Jesus and Zacchaeus so far?
2. What is the obstacle that Zacchaeus is facing in this passage?

### **Comprehension/Understanding Questions**

1. Who are the sinners in this story? (***Everyone but Jesus***)
2. Why were the people in Jericho mad that Jesus was entering Zacchaeus' house?

### **Applications Questions**

1. What does the Bible say about sin? Who has fallen to sin? (Romans 3:23)
2. What is the consequence of that sin? (Romans 6:23)

### **Synthesis Questions**

1. How does Zacchaeus provide evidence of his faith in this passage?
2. Can you explain what impact Zacchaeus had on the crowds around him and Jesus?

### **Evaluation Questions**

1. If you were to evaluate society today would you say more people are like Zacchaeus or the people in Jericho? Explain your answer.
2. How do you think Jesus will respond to Zacchaeus and the people in Jericho?

### **Conclusion**

Jesus came to save, plain and simple. In the middle of Zacchaeus proclaiming his faith in Jesus the people in Jericho were grumbling because Jesus was going into the house of a sinner.

Zacchaeus responds is very graceful and merciful as he shows his faith in Christ and salvation came into his house.

### **Announcements**

Leaders communicate any announcements for your group and the ministry.

## **The Poor Becomes Rich**

### **Week 4**

The poor man became rich in this passage. He was poor in spirit yet became rich in spirit upon his decision to follow Jesus. Zacchaeus did not do any good deeds or give any money to have this relationship with Jesus, he simply followed Him. We are to do the same, constantly follow Jesus.

### **Learning Activities**

- Book of Questions: What is the worst tasting thing you have ever eaten?

### **Learning Readiness**

Say: Today we focus on the Poor in Spirit becoming rich in Christ.

Ask: What do you think it means to be poor or rich in spirit?

### **Bible Study**

**Lesson Objective**: The poor man became rich in this passage. He was poor in spirit yet became rich in spirit upon his decision to follow Jesus. Zacchaeus did not do any good deeds or give any money to have this relationship with Jesus, he simply followed Him. We are to do the same, constantly follow Jesus.

**Read**: Luke 19:9-10

**9 And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”**

### **Knowledge Questions**

1. Who is the Son of Man?
2. What does Jesus say that the Son of Man came to do?

### **Comprehension/Understanding Questions**

1. How would you describe salvation?
2. Can you explain why people deny the Gospel?

### **Applications Questions**

1. What are some ways that we can demonstrate our Salvation?
2. How can we apply the message that Jesus teaches on salvation to our lives?

### **Synthesis Questions**

1. Is it possible for us to save anyone from eternal death?
2. What can we do to be better prepared to “seek the lost?”

### **Evaluation Questions**

1. Take a second to soak in everything we have learned over these four weeks. Now let us evaluate, are you more like Zacchaeus or the Gentiles?
2. Assess your spiritual life, are you prepared to live out your faith and share your faith with others?

### **Conclusion**

We all have a great purpose in the kingdom of God. We are his hands and feet and we are called to go out into this world preaching, teaching, and sharing the Gospel with others. After all that is the message that Jesus has for his disciples at the end of the book of Matthew when He gives the great commission. Salvation came into Zacchaeus' house and now it was Zacchaeus' duty to go fulfill the great commission.

### **Announcements**

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