

# Jesus and Zacchaeus

Luke 19:1-10

October 10, 2021

## Who was Zacchaeus?

Tax collector – not liked as you can imagine and they always took more than required, for themselves.

Zacchaeus in the Bible was a man whose life-changing encounter with Jesus was recorded by Luke (Luke 19:1–10). Zacchaeus was one of the head tax collectors in the region of Jericho, and the Bible says he was a rich man. Jewish tax collectors like Zacchaeus were scorned by their countrymen for a couple of reasons: one, they were known for cheating the taxpayers; and, two, they worked for Rome. The other Jews saw Jewish tax collectors as collaborators with the enemy—traitors to their own people.<sup>1</sup>

Zacchaeus though had an encounter with Jesus!

## People Are Looking to See Who Jesus Really Is (v 3).

They may have different reasons for it.

They may have different motives for it.

Many today, though, are looking for truth. In a world where there is no truth or where truth is relative, people are looking for the truth.

Be rest assured people are looking, they are inquiring, they are interested.

Often, even those who seem hesitant, hateful or downright mean towards Jesus or the things of Jesus, they are still looking.

## We Are Simply a Conduit (Tool) to Let Others See Who Jesus Really Is (v 4).

Jesus could see Zacchaeus, that is Jesus knew He was there and that he would be looking, which is why Jesus went thru Jericho.

That sycamore tree was there long before the meeting with Jesus and Zacchaeus. God had prepared the way. So often God has us in the paths of others to prepare the way of the Lord. He is working on their heart, He is getting them ready, He is preparing them and we are there for folks to “climb up” on and see Jesus.

### *Conduit:*

**1:** a natural or artificial channel through which something (such as a fluid) is conveyed.

**2:** a pipe, tube, or tile for protecting electric wires or cables.

**3:** a means of transmitting or distributing.<sup>2</sup>

Both Believers and

Non-believers are looking to see who Jesus is.

How are you and I helping others see Jesus?

Family (spouse, kids, etc.)

Neighbors

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gotquestions.org/Zacchaeus-in-the-Bible.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/conduit>

Coworkers

“Random” encounters

Do we make ourselves available? Are we too busy to notice? Are we so focused on our task?

Excuses: Don't know what to say, don't know how to approach the conversation.

God will provide, just be available.

Mission and Vision: Rejoicing as people come to life in Christ as we build relationships that lead to Gospel transformation.

### **Jesus Knows All (vs. 4-5).**

Jesus sees us.

Jesus knows our name.

Jesus is with us (vs. 4-5).

Jesus was accused of eating with the sinner, yep.

Let's do the same with others.

### **Salvation Is Always Evidenced (v 8).**

If Jesus is really our Savior, He will be our Lord.

*<sup>8</sup> Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold." <sup>9</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; <sup>10</sup> for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."* **Luke 19:8-10**

"Don't get the idea that salvation is like a cafeteria line where you say, 'I believe I'll have a little Savior-hood, please, but no Lordship, thank you.' If Jesus is not your Lord, Jesus Christ is not your Savior." ~ **Adrian Rogers**

We are not saved by what we do, but by what HE has done, we place our faith in Him. IF we have placed our faith in Him then there will be evidences of this.

John 15

### **Prayer Focus:**

**Am I showing Jesus by words and actions?**

**Will I be a willing conduit?**

**Who do I know that needs to see Jesus?**