



LESSON 6

REFERENCES: LUKE 19:1-10; *THE DESIRE OF AGES*, PP. 552-556.

Too Short to See

Do you know someone that other people don't like? Do you think Jesus likes that person? What would you do if you knew no one liked you?

People didn't like Zacchaeus. Why didn't people like Zacchaeus? Because Zacchaeus was a tax collector. And people didn't like tax collectors because they thought tax collectors cheated.



Zacchaeus heard that Jesus loved everybody. *I wonder if Jesus loves me*, he thought to himself. *No, Jesus can't love me. Even people don't like me.*

Did Jesus love Zacchaeus? Of course He did, because Jesus loves everybody!

Zacchaeus wanted to be like Jesus. But the people still didn't like Zacchaeus! Zacchaeus was sad and discouraged. Even though his heart had been changed, no one believed him. But Jesus would

Memory Verse

"[Jesus] came to seek and to save the lost."

LUKE 19:10, NIV.

The Message

Jesus wants everyone to be in His family.

understand.

One day Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was coming to Jericho. That was his town! Oh, he just had to see Jesus!

Zacchaeus walked into the crowded streets. He was a short man, so he couldn't see over the tops of the people's heads. He was going to miss seeing Jesus! He turned and quickly climbed up into a nearby sycamore tree. Then he saw Jesus coming!

Suddenly Jesus stopped right under that tree! He looked up at Zacchaeus and said, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down! I must stay at your house today."

The people were so surprised! They couldn't believe that Jesus would want to go to the house of a tax collector!

Zacchaeus quickly climbed down out of that tree and took Jesus home with him. Now he knew that he was forgiven. He knew that Jesus loved him. Jesus told everyone in Zacchaeus' house that He had come to save everyone, including them.

Zacchaeus wanted to do things the way Jesus did. He looked at Jesus and said, "I want to give half of my money to the poor. To the people I may have cheated, I want to give back four times as much as I took. I want to love everybody the way You do."

Jesus was happy that Zacchaeus felt that He was a part of God's family. Jesus wants us to feel a part of God's family too.



Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week, read the lesson story together, and review the memory verse.

[Jesus] Point upward.

came. Bring hands toward self.

to seek Hand over eyes.

and to save. With fists crossed at the wrists, move hands apart.

the lost. Fingertips of both hands together; drop hands apart.

Luke 19:10. Palms together, then open.

SUNDAY

Count out 10 coins of the same value. Say: “Zacchaeus promised to give half of his money to the poor [take away five coins], and to give back four times as much as he had taken from those he may have cheated.” Hold up one coin and say: “If Zacchaeus took one extra coin, he would give back four coins. How many coins did he have left?”

MONDAY

Help your child share the Zacchaeus Tree from Sabbath School with someone and tell them about Zacchaeus. (Or help them draw a tree with Zacchaeus sitting in it.) Remember to tell them that Jesus wants them in His family too.



Sing “Zacchaeus”
(*Little Voices Praise Him*,
no. 63).

TUESDAY

Zacchaeus gave his money to help the poor. Help your child find someone locally to help or go to adra.org and find a project that your child would be interested in. Support that project if you are able.



WEDNESDAY

Take a walk around your neighborhood, and count the trees you see. If it’s safe, help your child sit on a limb while you sing “Zacchaeus” together.

THURSDAY

Play hide-and-seek with your child. Talk about the memory verse. Ask: “What does that mean?”

FRIDAY

Collect a stool, some money, a bag, and some leaves. Help your child use these things to act out the story as they tell it to your family. Ask: “Would you want to watch for Jesus from a tree?”

Help your child use clay to make a family plaque. Put everyone’s fingerprints and names on it. Say: “We are a part of God’s family.”