

Zacchaeus

Jesus entered Jericho and made his way through the town. There was a man there named Zacchaeus. He was one of the most influential Jews in the Roman tax-collecting business, and he had become very rich. He tried to get a look at Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowds. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree beside the road, so he could watch from there. When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name.

"Zacchaeus!" he said. "Quick, come down! For I must be a guest in your home today." Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy. But the crowds were displeased. "He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner," they grumbled. Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have overcharged people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!" Jesus responded, "Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a son of Abraham. And I, the Son of Man, have come to seek and save those like him who are lost." Luke 19:1-10

Gut level questions:

Is there anyone who _____?

His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by sending Jesus Christ to die for us. And he did this because he wanted to! Ephesians 1:5

Is Jesus really worth _____ after?

And how do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul in the process? Matthew 16:26

Answer: Jesus loves you, accepts you, and He is _____!

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost. Luke 19:10

For I have come to urge sinners, not the self-righteous, back to God." Matthew 9:13

Gut level response:

1. Refuse to _____ by the crowd

...but they were not able to get near him because of the crowd. Luke 8:19-20

2. _____ that God is pursuing you...Say "YES" to him!

So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the message God has planted in your hearts, for it is strong enough to save your souls. James 1:21

Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do and he will direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

3. Realize Heart change leads to _____

By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise every good tree bears good fruit. Matthew 7:16-17