

**HEY! THAT'S ME IN  
THE TREE!**

***Luke 19:1-10***

## LUKE 19:1-10 (NLT)

### Jesus and Zacchaeus

<sup>1</sup> Jesus entered Jericho and made his way through the town. <sup>2</sup> There was a man there named Zacchaeus. He was the chief tax collector in the region, and he had become very rich. <sup>3</sup> He tried to get a look at Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd. <sup>4</sup> So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree beside the road, for Jesus was going to pass that way.

## LUKE 19:1-10 (NLT)

### Jesus and Zacchaeus

- <sup>5</sup> When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. “Zacchaeus!” he said. “Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today.”
- <sup>6</sup> Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy. <sup>7</sup> But the people were displeased. “He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner,” they grumbled.

## LUKE 19:1-10 (NLT)

### Jesus and Zacchaeus

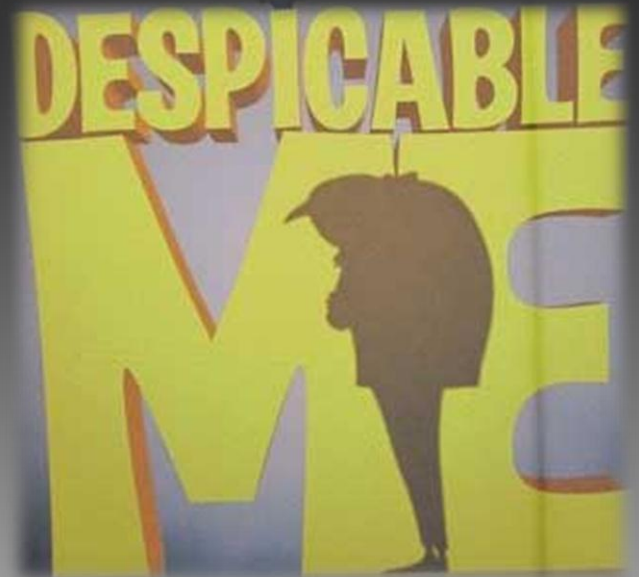
<sup>8</sup> Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, “I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!”

<sup>9</sup> Jesus responded, “Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup> For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.”

- ❖ Stories of extreme redemption are told to give us all hope.
- ❖ Change the time and place...and paste my story in...a perfect fit.
- ❖ When you meet Jesus on his narrow path...something's got to give!
- ❖ God's goodness (indeed!) leads one to repent.

## **\$ucce\$\$ful, Despicable Me**

- ❖ A tax man of the worst order...an agent of Rome
- ❖ Plenty of cash...But considered a traitor to his own people...so, few friends!
- ❖ Tax system invited fraud, vicious practices, extortion
- ❖ Such was Zacchaeus!



# Something He Has Heard About Jesus Has Him Scrambling Up a Sycamore Tree

- ❖ Long on money, short of stature
- ❖ Runs ahead of the pack...  
secures a limb with a view.
- ❖ Gotta see the man who has turned  
Jericho upside down





## Jesus' Behavior Is Startling

- ❖ Look up to Zacchaeus...  
and calls him by name.
- ❖ Get down here...  
I must stay to your house today.
- ❖ He scurried down and welcomed Jesus  
gladly.
- ❖ All of the people are disappointed and  
critical of such a development.
- ❖ The home of a 'Sinner'? Yuk.





## **Zacchaeus is Immediately A New Man**

- ❖ **Here and now I give half of my wealth to the poor.**
- ❖ **And...any I have cheated will get repaid four times over.**

## **It Is The Universal Story**

- ❖ **Guy has all the goodies that money can buy.**
- ❖ **Yet has a hole in his heart...goes looking for 'filler'.**
- ❖ **Is confronted by the glory and goodness of God.**
- ❖ **Votes Yes to surrender to the extravagant love of God.**

## **Jesus Celebrates This Moment Of Redemption**

- ❖ **Salvation has come to this house!**
- ❖ **Behold, a new Son of Abraham!**
- ❖ **This was the Son of Man's agenda all along....seeking and saving the lost.**

## **It Is Our Story, Isn't It?**

- ❖ **In the long run, money is never enough. We all have a hole in our heart.**
- ❖ **Good looks, friendships and social status...yet more of the same emptiness.**
- ❖ **What does it take to be complete, filled up and truly satisfied? Remember the Rolling Stones' song about Satisfaction.**
- ❖ **What do I need to 'have what I really need'?**

## **We Need God, In All Of His Majesty, Grace, Goodness And Love**

- ❖ **Ask the Woman at the Well. Loved by Jesus despite her serious smudges. John 4**
- ❖ **Having a real encounter with God changes everything. Isaiah 6**
- ❖ **The kindness of a God leads a man to repent. Romans 2:4**

## **We Need God, In All Of His Majesty, Grace, Goodness And Love**

- ❖ Faith comes by hearing the Gospel of God's love expressed at the cross. **Romans 10:17**
- ❖ Jesus loves you as he did Zacchaeus...and he's ready to stay in your house too.

## **It Is Actually Our Story**

- ❖ **I'm Zacchaeus**
- ❖ **I'm up a tree**
- ❖ **Jesus knows what I need...Him!**
- ❖ **It's in my hands!**



# Confession

**I believe that Jesus is  
the Christ, the Son of  
the living God.**

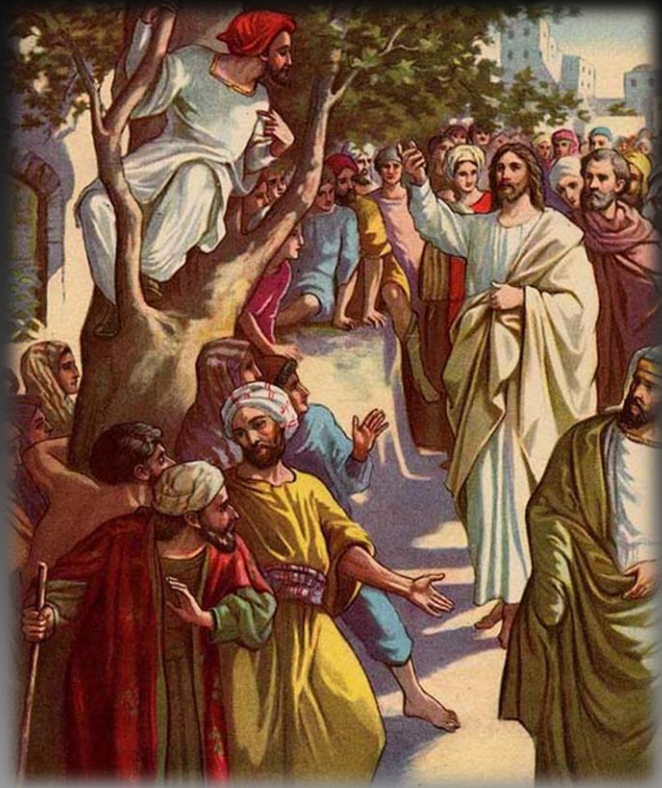
**I trust Him as my  
Lord and Savior.**



- ❖ Stories of extreme redemption are told to give us all hope.
- ❖ Change the time and place...and paste my story in...a perfect fit.
- ❖ When you meet Jesus on his narrow path...something's got to give!
- ❖ God's goodness (indeed!) leads one to repent.

# Prayer





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