

Luke 19:1-10

¹ Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ² A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy.

³ He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-figtree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

⁵ When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today."⁶ So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

⁷ All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

⁸ But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

⁹ Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

Series: God's Story: Finding our Place in His Unfolding Plan

Oct 22, 2017: Jesus and the Crook

On the Defensive

In Mark, what was Jesus's message? In Luke, what was Jesus's mission? What kind of responses did He receive from people?

Ark vs. Outpost – churches vary between defensive or offensive stance toward the world. How can this affect the church's mission?

"Love the sinner, hate the sin" – do we ever get this backwards? How can this affect the church's effectiveness in mission

Pursuing the Worst (1-7)

1-4 – What kind of person was Zaccheus? What did he do? If you met someone like him, would you think he had potential to be a good Christian? Would you invite him to church?

5-7 – How did Jesus interact with Zaccheus differently than others? How did Zaccheus react? How did the crowds react?

Transformed by Grace (8-10)

Luke 18:24-27 – The Rich Ruler's actions revealed his lack of faith.

Luke 19:8-9 – Zaccheus's actions demonstrate his salvation.

What led him to this transformation? What did Jesus do first?

Ephesians 2:8-10, Romans 5:8, 1 John 4:19 – In true Christianity, what comes first? God's actions or ours?

Why and how do we get this mixed up?

On the Offensive

1 Tim 2:4 – Do you believe that God can, & wants to save all people?

Matthew 28:19-20 – Do you believe that you can have a part to play in His work?

Pray – Are you like Zaccheus? Is Jesus calling you?

Or, who is the Zaccheus in your life, who just needs an invitation?