



1st November 2020

Zacchaeus

Reference: Luke 19:1-10

Main Point: Jesus wanted Zacchaeus to be his friend. Zacchaeus changed when he became a friend of Jesus.

An activity to do together:

- Look up and show your children the life cycle of a caterpillar. Talk about the concept of change. Caterpillars change from 'little grubs' into beautiful butterflies. Tell your children that in today's true story from the Bible we will read about a man who changed when he became a friend of Jesus. Before he met Jesus he was not very nice at all, but after he became Jesus' friend he changed to become a kind and generous man who wanted to please Jesus.
- Zacchaeus and Jesus toilet roll craft - print out this [Template](#) and follow the instructions on the template. All you need is a toilet roll, scissors, sticky tape and some coloured pencils/markers. Start introducing Zacchaeus by talking about who he was, and perhaps discuss why he might be climbing a tree...

Bible: Retell the account of Zacchaeus found in Luke 19: 1-10 or, read to your child, the story of Zacchaeus, the tax collector, from a children's bible such as "The Beginners Bible" .

Discussion:

1. **What was the name of the man in the Bible story today?** (*Zacchaeus.*)
2. **What was Zacchaeus like?** (*He was a tax collector - that means it was his job to collect money from people and give it to the King. But sometimes he would do the wrong thing and take too much money for himself so no one liked him.*)
3. **What did Zacchaeus do when Jesus came to his town so that he could see Jesus?** (*He was not very tall so he climbed a big fig tree to get a better look at Jesus as he passed by. (Show a picture of a fig tree to further illustrate what it would have been like)*)
4. **What did Jesus say when he saw Zacchaeus?** (*Jesus told Zacchaeus to come down right away. He said that he would be staying at Zacchaeus' house.*)
5. **What happened after Zacchaeus met Jesus?** (*Zacchaeus changed, he said he would stop doing the wrong thing and that he wanted to give back lots of money to the people he took it from. Jesus welcomed Zacchaeus to be his friend! When Zacchaeus became friends with Jesus he changed from being a man who did the wrong thing to being a kind and generous man. Zacchaeus now wanted to live to please Jesus.*)
6. **If we are friends with Jesus, Jesus wants us to live to please him too! - What are some of the ways we can do this?** (*Be kind to people, share our toys, speak nicely to our friends, listen to mum and dad, read the Bible, pray to God....*)

**Pray together:** Dear God,

Thank you that Jesus wanted to be Zacchaeus's friend. Thank you that when Zacchaeus became a friend of Jesus, he changed. Thank you that he now wanted to live to please Jesus. Thank you that Jesus died for my sin so that I can be his friend too. Please help me to live in a way that pleases Jesus. Please help me to tell other people about Jesus so that they can be friends with him too. Amen.

Memory verse: 'I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me.'- John 14:6

Ideas for sermon time:

- **Watch** this week's video for under 5's.
- Print out and colour this [colouring page](#)
- Print and colour the 'Jesus gives new life.' [bookmark](#)
- Have your child draw a big tree on a blank piece of paper and decorate/colour. They can also draw happy smiley faces to remember how Jesus wanted to be Zacchaeus's friend and how Zacchaeus changed.