Zacchaeus Goes Out On a Limb Sun Am KZ Lesson 11/12/23

# Memory Verse: Luke 19:10 NKJV

# 10for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

Target Question?: How hard do we try to spend time with Jesus.

Luke 19:1-10

19 Then *Jesus* entered and passed through Jericho. 2Now behold, *there was* a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. 3And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. 4So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that *way.* 5And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, “Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house.” 6So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. 7But when they saw *it,* they all complained, saying, “He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner.” 8Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold.”9And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; 10for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

I can remember when I was the age of some of you. I wasn't very tall. Many times I had trouble reaching things that were up on a high shelf. Sometimes, I would have to stand on a footstool or pull up a chair to stand on to reach what I wanted. If there was a tall person sitting in front of me at the movie, I would have to lean from side to side to see around them or sit on my knees to see over them.  What are some challenges people face when they’re short? What’s it like for you when you’re somewhere and you just can’t see? What do you do to try to see better? I don't have to tell you about the problems of being short in a world full of tall people.

Today's Bible lesson is about a man who was very short. His name is Zacchaeus. We just heard his story. You may already know this song, help me to sing it.

Zacchaeus was a wee little man,

And a wee little man was he.

He climbed up in a sycamore tree,

For the Lord he wanted to see.

And as the Savior passed that way,

He looked up in the tree,

And he said, "Zacchaeus, you come down!

For I'm going to your house today.

For I'm going to your house today.

When Jesus came by and saw Zacchaeus in the tree, Jesus looked up at him and called him by name. Jesus knew his name! And Jesus knows your name. Jesus loved Zacchaeus and He loves all of us very much and wants us to love Him and spend time with Him.

Jesus said. "Zacchaeus! Come down quickly. I am going to be a guest in your home today." And Zaccaheus took Jesus to his house. The people could not believe that Jesus would go to the home of a man like that! Jesus changed Zacchaeus. And Zacchaeus said, "I am going to give half of all that I own to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

Jesus forgave Zacchaeus and said, "Today salvation has come to this house. For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost." Jesus’ purpose for coming to the Earth was to save everybody. Father God and Jesus and the Holy Spirit loves all of us.

Jesus knew Zacchaeus’ name. And He knew everything Zacchaeus had ever done. When Zacchaeus met Jesus, his life was changed because he got saved and loved Jesus. Jesus knows your name, too, and Jesus knows everything about you. Once we become saved and we love and serve Jesus it changes our lives too.

Dear God, we know that when we meet Jesus, it is a life-changing experience. Thank You that Jesus knows our name and loves us. In Jesus’ name, we thank You amen.

1 Do we try hard to spend time with Jesus?

2 Why was Zacchaeus so happy to be with Jesus?

3 Does Jesus want us to spend time with Him? Why?

4 Did Jesus come to save everybody?

5 When we become saved does it change our life?