



Luke 19:1-10

¹He entered Jericho and was passing through. ²And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. ⁴So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way. ⁵And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.” ⁶So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. ⁷And when they saw it, they all grumbled, “He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.” ⁸And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.” ⁹And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Background

Followers of Jesus were made to live distinct lives – especially in trying seasons. Last week, we were reminded that prayer helps followers of Jesus stay connected to the heart of the Father when the world seems to be spinning out of control. This week, Brian Richards, will challenge us to consider how we were MADE FOR THIS season to give and to serve others. Even in times of uncertainty, followers of Jesus have a remarkable opportunity to be ‘light’ in the darkness since we are never more like Jesus than when we are giving of ourselves and serving others.

Service Notes

What is your biggest takeaway from today’s message?



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Instructions

This discussion guide is to help you facilitate a conversation with your small group. The “Getting Started” section serves as a quick opener and introduction to the group conversation. In the “Talk it Over” section, feel free to use all or only some of the questions. Again, our hope is to have meaningful and encouraging conversations around the passage used in the sermon, not simply answer all the questions. Give each member of your group opportunity to respond. Take your time. Finally, the “Live it Out” section is to help identify a specific next step. Use these questions as a guide to find practical ways to apply the passage to our everyday life.

Getting Started

- ▼ If there is anyone new to the group, have them introduce themselves and share what motivated them to participate in this Life Group. Then quickly introduce everyone else in your group (if less than ten people).
- ▼ What are you thankful for this week? What is causing stress? How can we pray for you? What stood out to you the most in the message?

Talk it Over

- ▼ Since we are never more like Jesus than when we are giving of ourselves and serving others, what most often keeps us from living this way? How can we overcome these obstacles?
- ▼ **Read Titus 3:4-8.** What does this passage teach us about God’s grace? How does this passage show us the relationship between what God has done for us and what we should do for others?
- ▼ **Read 1 Peter 4:9-10.** According to this passage, how should we use the gifts God has given us? What happens when everyone ‘puts to work’ what God has given them both in the local church and the world around them? Why is this important our Christian witness?

Live it Out

- ▼ What is one practical way you can show generosity to someone God has placed in your life this week? What is one way you can serve a neighbor or co-worker this week.

