



All Christians' Fellowship International

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Study to show "The Way of True life," Bible Study Outline

TOPIC: **Seeking the Lost**
TEXT: ***Luke 19:1-10***

Instructions: - *Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone could participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone to have an equal opportunity to participate.*

Introduction: In 1893 Francis Thompson wrote a poem which described how desperately he had avoided God:

I fled Him, down the nights and down the days.

I fled Him, down the arches of the years. . .

But with un-hurrying chase,

And unperturbed pace,

Deliberate speed, majestic instance . . . the "Hound of Heaven" pursued relentlessly.

In Luke 19 we meet a man who also spent most of his life fleeing from God. Then one day he sought and was found by Jesus.

1. Think back to your own conversion. What led you to seek Jesus?
2. Read Luke 19:1-10. What can we discover about Zacchaeus before he met Jesus?
3. What may Zacchaeus have heard and believed about Jesus that made him so eager to catch a glimpse of Jesus (w. 3-4)?
4. The crowd stops, and Jesus publicly addresses Zacchaeus in the tree (w. 5-6). Why must this have filled Zacchaeus with mixed feelings?
- 5- Tax collectors were ostracized from Jewish society because they collaborated with the Roman occupation forces. What risk does Jesus take in entering Zacchaeus' home (v. 7)?
6. Why was it necessary for Jesus to break the masses' stereotype of him?
7. What assumption about Jesus do your non-Christian friends hold that you need to change?
8. How do Zacchaeus' actions indicate the depth of his repentance (v. 8; see also Lev 6:1-5)?
9. What thoughts and feelings do you think Zacchaeus has as he hears Jesus say, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham" (v. 9)?
10. People don't wear signs saying, "I'm desperate, I'm seeking God." What cues might they give that they are ready to hear more about Jesus?
11. Zacchaeus had been seeking Jesus. But verse 10 suggests Jesus had come seeking Zacchaeus! How can it help you to know that the Lord actively seeks the friends you are evangelizing?
12. Jesus continues to seek and to save those who are lost. As his disciple, what can you do to follow his example?