

More than a Children's Story

Luke 19:1–10

1. Investigating the Background

Luke 19:1–2

2. Asking Questions

Luke 19:3–5

Question 1:

Question 2:

3. Analyzing the Responses

Luke 19:6–9

The response of the people

Zacchaeus' response

Jesus' response

Your response

Application:

Luke 19:10

For the Family

Read together Luke 15:1–6

Explain that the people didn't like tax collectors because they worked for the Roman government, and because they cheated people. Some people were mad at Jesus because he spent time with them. So Jesus told them a parable about a shepherd who left 99 sheep safe in the pen to look for one sheep that was lost. Jesus spent time with tax collectors because they were lost, and needed to be found.

Read together Matthew 9:9–13

Explain that this is another time where the people wondered why Jesus spent time with tax collectors. Jesus explained that it is the sick who need a doctor, not those who are well.

Read together Luke 19:1–10

Explain that this is another story where the people didn't understand why Jesus would spend time with sinners. They grumbled when Jesus invited himself to Zacchaeus' house.

But look what happened. Zacchaeus changed. He told Jesus he would give away half of his money, and he would pay back anyone he had cheated. Jesus said that salvation had come to Zacchaeus' house.

Zacchaeus met Jesus and he changed from a greedy man to a generous one, and he resolved to make up for anything he had done wrong. The Bible calls this "repentance." Zacchaeus was living a life without God. Then he met Jesus, and he repented, and began living a life for God.

At the end of the story, Jesus said, "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." When the people grumbled that Jesus spent time with sinners, Jesus reminded them that's why he came in the first place: to look for sinners and to save them.

Pray together that you are thankful that Jesus came to seek and to save the lost. Pray that you will join him in his mission.