

Luke
See Jesus
Jesus is Looking for You
Luke 19:1-10

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / May 21, 2023

I. If You Want to Be Saved by Jesus You Have to Get Over Yourself and What Other People Think

Luke 19:4 “So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him...”

Luke 19:3 “And he was seeking to see who Jesus was...”

One of the biggest barriers to receiving salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, and in Christ alone, is our pride, our dignity, our high opinion of ourselves, and our concern about image.

Here is a man who doesn't care what anybody else thinks! This man is desperate to know who Jesus is, so he throws caution to the wind.

You'll have to swallow your pride, be willing to look foolish, and risk ridicule to see who Jesus really is.

Luke 18:17 “Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”

II. If You Want to Be Saved by Jesus You Have to Receive Him by Faith

A. Jesus Saw Him and Spoke to Him First

Luke 19:5 “And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, hurry and come down...’”

Jesus not only saw him and not only spoke to him, but He called him by name! Jesus doesn't think in terms of nameless, faceless masses of humanity. He sees individual people and He calls them by name.

B. Zacchaeus Received Him

Luke 19:6 “So he hurried and came down and received Him joyfully.”

Zacchaeus was overwhelmed with the implications of what Jesus has done in stopping, looking at him, calling him by name, and inviting Himself into his home in front of a crowd that hates him.

When Luke tells us that Zacchaeus received Him joyfully, we're talking about Zacchaeus believing in Jesus for salvation.

John 1:11-12 “He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. ¹² But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.”

C. Jesus Saved Him

Luke 19:5 “...‘Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.’”

When you receive Jesus, He comes right into your heart and home and settles down there. He wants to have a relationship with you that will affect every single nook and cranny of your life. He gives Himself to you fully and expects full access into your life.

Jesus doesn't just give you salvation; He *is* salvation when He comes into your life.

Luke 19:9 “And Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house...’”

Jesus didn't come to start another religion. He came to do for us what we could never do for ourselves, so that when you receive Him and believe in Him, it is done for you!

Christianity is not about following all the rules, pushing all the buttons, or checking all the boxes. It's about resting in a relationship with the One who has done all that was necessary to make you right with a holy God!

Luke 19:10 “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Religions wait for you to follow them, to sign up for their list and to get in line trying to do what they've got everybody else there trying to do. But Jesus goes looking for lost sinners!

D. Zacchaeus Treasured Jesus More than Anything Else

Luke 19:8 “And 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.’”

This is not Zacchaeus trying to do some amazing good deed to win God's favor. This is Zacchaeus being so overwhelmed by what God has just done for Him that what mattered most to him—like money and stuff—now take a back seat to the treasure of Jesus in his life.

Galatians 3:10-14 “For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, ‘Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.’ ¹¹ Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for ‘The righteous shall live by faith.’ ¹² But the law is not of faith, rather ‘The one who does them shall live by them.’ ¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, ‘Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree’— ¹⁴ so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.”