



Kindergarten-2nd

February 27-28, 2016

DATE

Zacchaeus

LESSON TITLE

Luke 19:1-9

WHERE TO FIND IT

Jesus' love changes us.

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

If you feel like kids getting a little of control, try some stretches! Just stop whatever you're doing, take a break, and have them follow your lead. It can help to calm down some kids and get them back on track.

check-in/out

Ask kids about Zacchaeus: what way did he change in today's story?

large group heads up

Today we're talking about change and how Jesus' love changed Zacchaeus! Read Luke 19:1-10 to brush up on the story ahead of time.



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

HUMAN STATUES

- Tell kids that you're going to call out something, and **they have to physically make their body into that specific thing**. They have to stay in that position for as long as you say (have shorter pauses in between some commands, and longer pauses in between some commands.)
- Call out the following:
 - Make yourself a rock.
 - Make yourself a bird.
 - Make yourself a table.
 - Make yourself an elephant.
 - Make yourself a mountain.
 - Make yourself a rabbit.
 - Make yourself a piece of paper.
 - Make yourself a tree.
 - Make yourself a balloon.
 - Make yourself a starfish.
- Now tell kids that you're going to call out some things that might be a bit harder to act out:
 - Make yourself mean
 - Make yourself lonely
 - Make yourself loving
 - Make yourself busy
 - Make yourself kind

TALK ABOUT IT

- What was the hardest thing to pretend to be? What was the easiest?
- What did you do to pretend to be things like lonely, kind or loving?

Before you go to Large Group, you can ask kids how their week went. You can also remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) retell the story of Jesus and Zacchaeus (2) understand that Zacchaeus changed his ways because of Jesus and (3) identify how Jesus' love changes us too.

Why? This story shows us the kind of response we should have to Jesus' love!

Tip: Kids might need help identifying how they've changed in their own lives, or how they want to change in the future. Offer up examples that they can relate to!

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. How did Zacchaeus change in today's story? (He was mean to others but started showing love after he met Jesus)
2. What made Zaccheus change? (Finding out that Jesus loved him)
3. How was Zacchaeus able to start being nice to people who were mean to HIM? (Zacchaeus knew Jesus loved him, even though he had been mean. Seeing Jesus' kindness made him want to be kind too)
4. Why do you think finding out that Jesus loved him made Zacchaeus change? (discuss with kids; you can suggest that Jesus loves us all so much that he even died to rescue us—it's a love that is perfect and never hurts us; Zacchaeus had never experienced that before)
5. What's one thing you can change now that you know Jesus loves you? (try to get kids to give specific examples of changed behavior, like:
 - a. They disobeyed their parents last week, so they will say they are sorry
 - b. They were mean to a sibling, so they will give that sibling a hug to show love
 - c. They didn't share with a friend, so they will let that same friend go first)

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- **SAY:** Zacchaeus changed because Jesus showed him love, and we can do the same thing! Let's look at the images and see if you remember what happened in today's story.
- **Show the following images (in order)** and ask kids what parts of the story it reminds them of:
 - a. Zacchaeus (ask kids about what he was like; he was mean, shorter than most people, etc.)
 - b. Money (he stole people's money)
 - c. Angry face (people were mean to him; nobody liked him, he was mean to

- others)
- d. Tree (Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, so he climbed a tree)
 - e. Food (Jesus went to his house for dinner!)
 - f. Heart (Jesus LOVED Zacchaeus; Zacchaeus was changed by Jesus' love: he started being nice to people and became a part of God's family)

*Extra Time? Give kids a **coloring page**. After that, feel free to let them watch the Large Group video again, or have them retell the story (using the images from Small Group) as fast as they can!*

special notes

Have an example from your own life of how Jesus' love changed you? Share it with kids during Large Group. It's always a good idea to be vulnerable, and help kids see that the lesson applies to you just as much as to them!

presenter tips

There are two videos we'll be watching today to help tell the story of Zacchaeus:

God's Story / Zacchaeus:
<https://vimeo.com/57088533>

The Ballad of Zacchaeus:
<https://vimeo.com/66762341>

script

***Click to play intro music**

WELCOME

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club! It's so great to see you. Did you all have fun pretending to be all those different things in Connect Time? (Let kids respond.) You were to asked turn into something like a rock or a tree, and you HAD to change yourself into a rock or a tree! Then you had to change yourself into something like being kind, or lonely. Which one is harder to change into: a rock, or being kind? (Let kids respond.)

INTRO GAME

Before we get started, let's play a little game to help us think about what it means to change! Let's pretend I'm really, really cold. (Shiver, be dramatic.) Well, if I put on a blanket... (say "ahhhh!" and pretend to have warmed up completely) I CHANGE! How do I feel now? (Let kids say: "warm!") That's right.

How about if I'm really, really hungry? (Rub your stomach.) Well, then, I eat a hug meal! After that, I CHANGE! How do I feel now? (Let kids say: "full" or "stuffed") Yep, I felt hungry, but after eating, I changed—and felt full!

Well, what if I'm tired (yawn and stretch) and I lie down for a nap (be dramatic—pretend to sleep/snore, etc.) Then I wake up! I felt tired...but I CHANGE! Now how do I feel? (Let kids say: "awake" or "not tired"). Today we're going to talk about changing in a *different* way, not just with our physical body. We're going to see how someone who NO ONE thought would ever follow Jesus, ended up following Jesus! And it's all because of Jesus' love.

NOBODY LIKED ZACCHAEUS

(Click to show image of Zacchaeus.) This is Zacchaeus. Can you guys say, "Zacchaeus"? (Let kids respond.) Now, Zacchaeus didn't have many friends, because he wasn't very nice to



script continued

people. He worked as a tax collector, and he took more money from people than he should have! Do you think people liked him very much? (Let kids respond.) Nope, people didn't like him at all. Let me see your mean, grouchiest face (Let kids respond.) That's kind of how Zacchaeus was ALL the time.

Well, one day, Jesus went to Zacchaeus' town. Do you think Jesus acted like everyone else, and didn't like Zacchaeus? (Let kids respond.) No way! Even though Zacchaeus wasn't a very nice person, Jesus loved him! And when Zacchaeus realized Jesus loved him, he CHANGED. Let's watch a video to see how Zacchaeus changed. As you watch, see if you can figure out how Zacchaeus treated people after he found out Jesus LOVED him!

Video: God's Story / Zacchaeus

Wow, what a great story! So after Zacchaeus found out Jesus loved him, how did he treat people? (Let kids say: "nice" or "he loved them" or "he gave them back their money," etc.) Yes, when Zacchaeus realized Jesus loved him, he started loving others!

JESUS' LOVE CHANGED ZACHAEUS

Zacchaeus was pretty much hated by everyone, right? (Let kids respond.) Yep. Sometimes, when someone is mean, or they don't know how to be kind to others, we just want to be mean to them back. Or maybe we want to ignore them. Jesus did something different though. He knew that deep down, Zacchaeus could love other people, but he needed someone to show him how to do it!

(Click to show image of Jesus and Zacchaeus.) When Jesus showed love to Zacchaeus, it changed him. If Jesus hadn't show love to him, he might never have realized what it's like to love others! All Zacchaeus knew was meanness. But now that Jesus loved him, he knew what it was like to have someone be kind to him. Jesus' love CHANGED Zacchaeus forever.

From then on out, instead of being mean (make a mean face), Zacchaeus started being nice to people! The people who knew him before...they were amazed! They had no idea Zacchaeus could ever love, or be kind. Can you all turn to someone next to you, and say something kind to them? (Let kids respond.) Thanks guys!

Let's watch one more video about Zacchaeus. This one is actually a song, and it tells us even more about how Zaacchaeus was changed.

Music Video: The Ballad of Zacchaeus

JESUS' LOVES CHANGES US TOO

Zacchaeus isn't the only one who was changed by Jesus' love. We can ALL be changed. Since we all make wrong choices sometimes, we all need a rescuer. It's hard to admit, but we all make bad choices, just like Zacchaeus did. Raise your hand if you've ever....said a mean thing to someone. (Let kids respond.) Raise your hand if you've ever gotten angry at someone for a really small, silly reason. (Let kids respond.) Has anybody ever lost your temper? (Let kids respond.) Yep, we all do things like that, because none of us is perfect. That's why we need a rescuer!



script continued

Even though we act those ways sometimes, we can change, because Jesus offers us his love. No matter what we do, or how much we mess up, his love is still there! It can NEVER go away.

RESPONSE TIME

Everybody take a minute to think about one way that you want to change. It could be anything! Maybe it's really hard for you to be nice to your brother or sister, and you need Jesus to help you be kind instead. Maybe you feel sad sometimes, and you need Jesus to help you have joy. Whatever it is, ask Jesus to help change you right now, inside your head. (Give kids a minute of respond. After about 30 seconds, pray for the group out loud, and thank Jesus for changing us through his amazing love.)

Now, I want YOU guys to stand up. (Let kids respond.) Jesus loves ALL of us, just like Zacchaeus! Even if we've been mean like Zacchaeus or if nobody else likes us, Jesus still loves us! Let's yell—as LOUD as we can—"Jesus loves me!" Ready? 1-2-3: (Yell "Jesus loves me" with kids).

WORSHIP

Now let's sing together and thank Jesus for loving us and always being with us!

Music Video: Because You Love Me

Music Video: Boss of Me

PRAY

Ask somebody to come and thank Jesus for loving all of us, no matter what we've done.

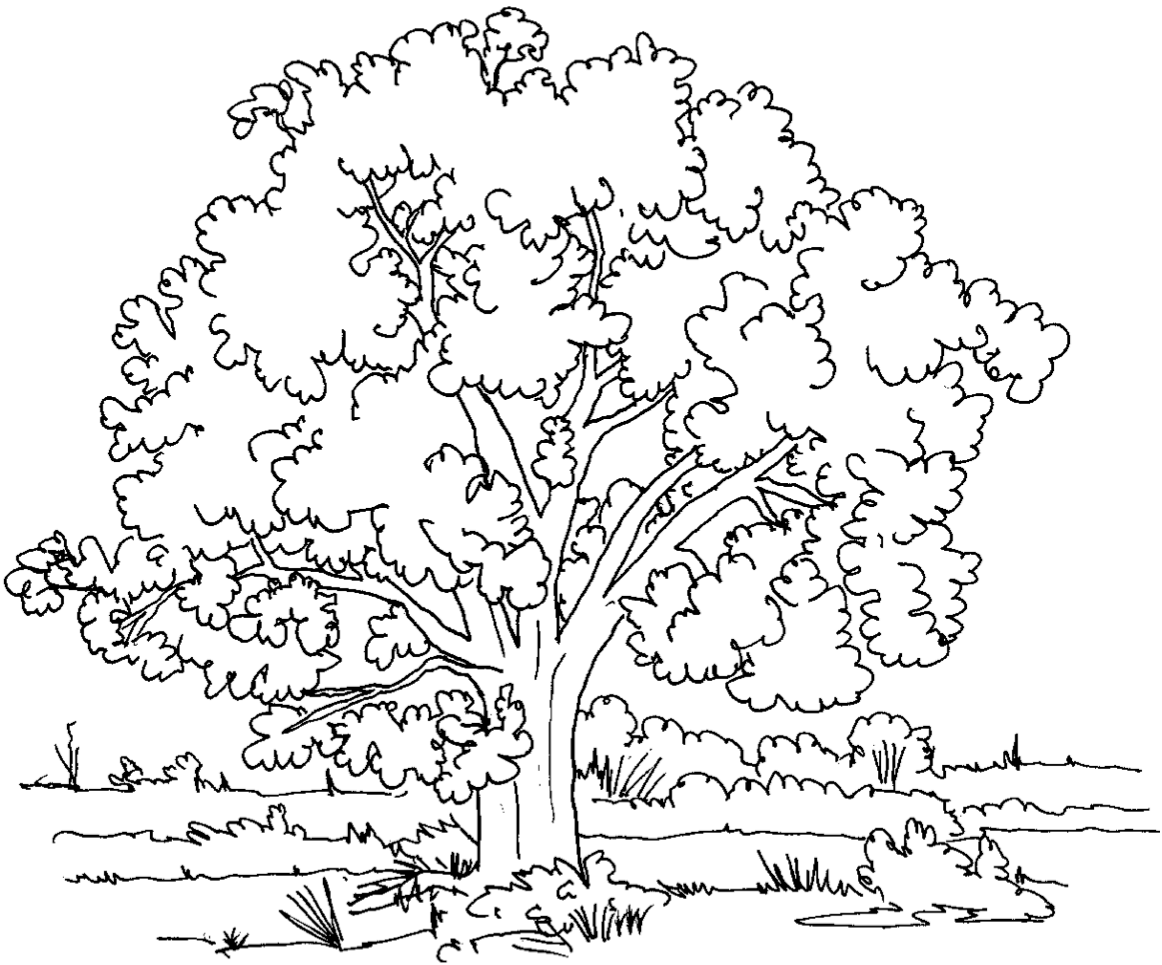
**Dismiss kids to small groups*



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PREP needs



connect time supplies

“Human Statues” game – No supplies needed

small group supplies

Per kid: coloring page

Per group: markers, One set of six picture cards (printed on 8 x 11 cardstock in color: Zacchaeus, money, angry face, tree, food, heart)

large group supplies

Bible

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Image: Zacchaeus
3. Video: God’s Story / Zacchaeus (<https://vimeo.com/57088533>)
4. Image: Jesus and Zacchaeus
5. Music Video: The Ballad of Zacchaeus (<https://vimeo.com/66762341>)
6. Music Video: Because You Love Me (<https://vimeo.com/49923930>)
7. Music Video: Boss of Me

connect questions

Tell me about Zacchaeus.
How does Jesus’ love change us?

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