



SDG Discussion Guide

Luke 19:1-10

November 17, 2019

For starters:

If you could pick an ideal height, how tall would you be? What would you do different?

What is a job or career you would least like to have? Why? A job or career you would most like to have and why?

Guideline: The following is meant to provide an approach for further interaction with the corresponding sermon text *and the surrounding passage*. Feel free to forward to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find this write up in print on that Sunday.

First, as you can, read aloud and slowly the selected passage in your group. If you have time, read it aloud a second time - from a different Bible translation.

Before you begin your discussion, pray, and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your consideration and learning?

Now that you have read the text together and prayed, what points and questions arise from your group? Spend plenty of time in your group to address these points and questions. Explore and see how God may give guidance in the discussion. The following are further questions you may use to guide your interaction with the text.

1. How does Zacchaeus compare and contrast with the rich, young ruler (18:18-30)? What was significant or surprising about Jesus's behavior in these verses?
2. What do we think it means that Jesus invites himself to Zacchaeus's home (v 5)? What would be good about that? What would not be good, if anything? If someone invited themselves to our home, would we be more inclined to say "yes" or to say "no"? Why? What insight does that shed on this scripture for us? What does it show us about ourselves?
3. What would you do if you knew Jesus was coming to your house? Would you take more time preparing your heart or your house or both? Why?
4. Why was it essential for Zacchaeus to take actions that supported his change of heart?
5. Why does Jesus dine with him? Why does this bother others?
6. Salvation coming to Zacchaeus's house had nothing to do with him giving away his money. Jesus was going to his house, no matter the reaction. Zacchaeus needed to refocus his heart and mind from money to Jesus. What does it mean for believers today to not only repent but to surrender the areas of their life that are drawing them away from God?
7. What does Jesus teach about his purpose in coming (v 10)? How is this a precise expression of God's own heart (Lk 5:31-32; 15:20)? How does this land with you today?
8. Where did Jesus find you? (Up a tree? Out on a limb?) Share your brief testimony or story anew. How did Jesus get you to join him?
9. What wrongs do you need to make right? What action may you need to take to support your change of heart?

Prayer:

Jesus, we thank you that not only may we seek you. But you seek us. Kindly show us where you are seeking us now, making it pronounced once more your heart for us and others around us in our day to day lives. Magnify to us, would you Lord, any action we may need to take to support the change of heart you're bringing forth. In your name we pray, amen.

*These questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).