

Reaching the Unlikely (Luke 19:1-11)

Change Your World – Part 8
Life Church St. Louis – May 4, 2014
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Proverbs 14:26 (NIV) He who fears the LORD has a secure fortress, and for his children it will be a refuge.

1. Care about the _____

Luke 19:1-2 (NIV) Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy.

1A. The unlikely are _____ from the crowd

Luke 19:3 (NIV) He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd.

1B. The unlikely want to see _____

Luke 19:4 (NIV) So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

2. _____ after the unlikely

2A. _____ the unlikely to meet Jesus

Luke 19:5-6 (NIV) When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

2B. Be prepared to face _____

Luke 19:7 (NIV) All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.'"

3. See the unlikely _____

3A. Salvation results in _____ behavior

Luke 19:8 (NIV) But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

3B. Salvation brings the unlikely into the _____

Luke 19:9 (NIV) Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham.

3C. Salvation of the lost is your _____ priority

Luke 19:10 (NIV) For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

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Intro. What is the difference between living life reacting to the world and living life to change your world?

In what way is living life according to God's plan the safest and best way to live (Proverbs 14:26)?

What types of people would you consider to be unlikely to follow Jesus?

In what ways were the following people that Jesus reached out to unlikely: lepers, tax collectors, children, rich ruler, blind beggar (Luke 17-18)?

1A. Explain why Zacchaeus was hated by the average Jew (Luke 19:1-2).

1B. Why do you think Zacchaeus wanted to see who Jesus was (Luke 19:3, 11)?

1C. What did Zacchaeus' behavior reveal about the heart of this unlikely person (Luke 19:4)?

- 1D. What types of people would you consider to be unlikely to follow Jesus today? How could you begin to care more deeply about them?
- 2A. What was unusual about Jesus' invitation to Zacchaeus (Luke 19:5-6)? Why do you think Zacchaeus responded the way he did?
- 2B. Why do you think the crowd reacted negatively to Jesus going to Zacchaeus' home (Luke 19:7)?
- 2C. How can you seek after unlikely people in your own life?
- 3A. In what ways does Zacchaeus' changed behavior reflect his new found faith in Jesus (Luke 19:8)?
- 3B. How did Zacchaeus' commitment to Jesus make him a true "son of Abraham" (Luke 19:9, Galatians 3:7)?
- 3C. Why should seeking and bringing the lost to Jesus be your top priority in life (Luke 19:10)?
- 3D. List five people in your life that you want to seek to bring to Jesus. If you don't know what their relationship with God is, how could you find out? What steps could you take to begin to draw them closer to Jesus?