

zacchaeus

face to face | week three

post falls campus | march 5th & 8th | sam meredith



REVIEW | What is God like?

- We can't see Him, but "the exact representation of His character" (Heb 1:3) is seen in Jesus
- Series examining Jesus having some Face to Face time with different categories of people
- What were they like before? How does He interact with them? How have their lives changed?

PREVIEW | Zacchaeus

- Zacchaeus was a "notorious sinner" (Luke 19:7) – whose life was radically changed by Jesus
- Jesus came to seek and save the lost – notorious sinners like Zacchaeus and you and me
- Will we respond with the radical lifestyle change we see in Zacchaeus?

Luke 19:1-10 | The Transformation of Zacchaeus

1. Jesus sees an opportunity to come face to face with a notorious sinner

Luke 19:1-6 (NLT) ¹Jesus entered Jericho and made his way through the town. ²There was a man there named Zacchaeus. He was the chief tax collector in the region, and he had become very rich. ³He tried to get a look at Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree beside the road, for Jesus was going to pass that way. ⁵When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. "Zacchaeus!" he said. "Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today." ⁶Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy.

- Zacchaeus was despised by the religious elite (Lk 18:11), but desired to see Jesus
- Jesus knows the name of this notorious sinner, and He wants to be with him
- Zacchaeus responds to Jesus' invitation (Rev 3:20) to come inside
- How do I respond to Jesus' invitation to come into my personal space?

2. The people disapprove of Jesus and His priorities

Luke 19:7 (NLT) ⁷But the people were displeased. "He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner," they grumbled.

- Jesus does not live to please people but to do the will of the Father (Jn 6:38)
- We are not the standard of God's righteousness. We all fall short (Rom 3:23)
- Am I willing to have people disapprove of me as I serve God? (Gal 1:10; Jn 12:42-43)

3. Zacchaeus' life radically changes after being with Jesus

Luke 19:8-10 (NLT) ⁸Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, "I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!" ⁹Jesus responded, "Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."

- Zacchaeus's repentance demonstrates his saving faith in Jesus (Acts 3:19; Jam 2:14, 17)
- Salvation is always by God's grace, through faith and for good works (Eph 2:8-10; Titus 3:3-7)
- Zacchaeus seeks to make amends for his sinful life that exploited others (2 Cor 7:9-11; Acts 3:19)
- Is Jesus' mission my mission? (Matt 28:18-20; 2 Tim 2:2; 1 Pet 3:15)

Practical Application

1. Am I willing to do my part to see this Jesus with my own eyes (do the work to examine the claims of Jesus for ourselves, not rely on others)?
2. Am I willing to allow Jesus into my personal space? Will I invite Him into every area of my life?
3. Does Jesus' mercy to the "notorious sinners" in my life bother me? Do I celebrate with them, or do I despise God and His priorities to show mercy and save others?
4. Have I made amends with those I have hurt?
5. Am I following Jesus so closely, His mission is my mission – seeking the lost?

When we see Jesus, we see God, and we see His heart to save us.

Colossians 1:15, 19-20 (NLT) ¹⁵Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation...¹⁹For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, ²⁰and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.

