

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

QUARTER

Unit 2, Session 1

CONNECTION

POINT: Even at our worst, Christ was fully committed to love and bring us to God.

THE BIBLE MEETS

LIFE: A wedding won't take place if only one of the persons is committed to the relationship. Who would want to marry someone who doesn't love him or her in return? That's not the case when we consider a commitment to Christ. History records no greater act of commitment than when Jesus Christ loved us and willingly took our punishment and death as His own. Because of His great love for us, we're drawn to love and commit ourselves to Him.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out.

FAMILY CONNECTION

Use these discussion starters to help foster a spiritual conversation with your family.

PRESCHOOL

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10

Live It Out: Review the Bible story and talk about ways to show love to others. Say that one way to show love is to be kind. Practice being kind to people you meet in your community.

Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus. Zacchaeus was a tax collector. He collected money that the people owed to the town. People did not like Zacchaeus because he was a tax collector.

Zacchaeus could not see over the crowd. He climbed a tree so he could see Jesus.

Jesus stopped under the tree. He said, "Come down, Zacchaeus. I want to go to your house today!" Zacchaeus climbed down the tree. He was happy that Jesus was going to his house.

Jesus taught Zacchaeus many things. Zacchaeus was sorry for the wrong things he had done. He said, "I will help the poor people. If I have taken too much money from people, I will give them back all of their money and more."

Zacchaeus knew Jesus loved him and wanted him to do right things.

KIDS

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10

Live It Out: Encourage your child to find someone he knows who has few friends. Remind him that God can help him show love to someone he and others might find difficult to love.

Zacchaeus was a tax collector in Jericho. The people did not like tax collectors because they took so much money and made themselves rich.

Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, but he couldn't. He could not see over the crowd. He climbed up a tree so he could watch Jesus pass by.

Jesus stopped and said, "Zacchaeus, come down! I need to stay at your house today."

Zacchaeus quickly came down and welcomed Jesus. People in the crowd complained, saying, "Jesus is going to stay with a sinful man!"

Zacchaeus said to Jesus, "I will give half of everything I own to the poor. If I have taken money unfairly from anyone, I will pay back four times as much!"

Jesus said, "Salvation has come here today. I have come to save people who need God."

STUDENTS

Scripture: Romans 5:6-12, 18-21

- How did you come to recognize your need for Christ?
- How would you explain reconciliation to God to an unbeliever?
- How are we made righteous?

Live It Out: From the beginning, God planned that Jesus would save people from their sins, and it was necessary that He would be crucified and raised. Even though we've rebelled against God and refused to live in ways that honor Him, Jesus loved us enough to die. Jesus' nature was demonstrated most clearly through His death on the cross.

Share with your student the story of how someone sacrificed something for you. Consider ways you and your student can live sacrificially for someone in your lives this week.