

Jesus and Zacchaeus

Luke 19:1-10

Jesus: Welcomes

I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
-John 14:6

Summer Sunday Schedule:

8:55-9:05 - Welcome/arrival
9:10-9:30 - Project Station (classroom)
9:35-9:55 - Game Station (LG1)
10-10:20 - Story Station (LG2)
10:20-10:45 - Back to classroom;
snack and transition to 2nd service

SHEPHERD GUIDE

Take time to prepare your heart and mind by spending time in the Word reading Luke 19:1-10. Note your observations about Jesus' character and what truths you see so you can share them with the kids.

This passage reveals that Jesus welcomes anyone and everyone with open arms. He came to seek and save the lost. He wants us to always turn toward Him and follow Him. Like us, Zacchaeus was a sinner searching for love and acceptance. As he encountered the love of Jesus, Zacchaeus turned from his sinful ways and Jesus gave Him new life in His name. We can also thank Jesus for the new life He gives to all who believe in Him!



When the children arrive, introduce yourself, ask them their name, welcome them to the class, and invite them to play with the other children. When most kids have arrived for first service, ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.



LESSON OVERVIEW

None

Ask the class: *Can you think of a time you haven't been able to see something you really wanted to see? How did it make you feel?* (Allow responses)

Summarize Luke 19:1-10 and then discuss the following questions in table groups or together as a class:

Why was it so amazing that Jesus accepted and called for Zacchaeus?

What obstacles stop people from truly follow Jesus?

How can you go out of your way to know Jesus more?

Why is it important not just to hear about Jesus, but to fully seek Him like Zacchaeus did?



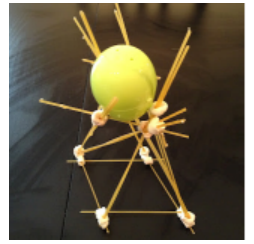
ACTIVITY:

Marshmallow and Spaghetti Tree Building Challenge

- Spaghetti
- Marshmallows
- Plastic eggs

Discuss with the class how our Bible story today is about a man who wanted to see Jesus, and it ended up changing his whole life!

Challenge the children to build a “tree” with the spaghetti and marshmallows that will support and hold a plastic easter egg (Zacchaeus).



Have the children work in groups of 2 or 3. Give each group spaghetti, marshmallows and a plastic easter egg. Give them 5-10 minutes to create their “tree”

Discuss:

- How easy was it to build the tree?
- What difficulties did you encounter?
- What difficulties did Zacchaeus run into?
- What lengths would you go to see someone you really wanted to see?
- How determined are you to “see” Jesus - to follow His commands and get to know Him better?

Pray for the desire to get to know Jesus better - to keep His commands and follow Him through everything we say and do



MEMORY VERSE GAME Dice Toss

- Key Passage Poster
- Big dice with common words,
- Verse sheets
- Pencils

Practice John 14:6 together a few times.

Divide the kids by table groups. Give each child a verse sheet and pencil. Give each table a dice that has 6 of the most common words from the verse on the cube.

Kids will take turns rolling the dice and writing the word they rolled onto one of the blank lines. Kids continue until the verse is complete.

I am the _____, and the _____,
and the _____.
No one comes to the _____
_____ through _____.
-John 14:6

