

Sermon Outline

The story of Zacchaeus has something to tell us about our own story with God:

1. Who we were
2. What God has done
3. What God intends for us to be

Why were tax collectors hated?

- Paying tax was seen as a recognition of the emperor's sovereignty. Tax collectors seen as traitors and collaborators with Rome.
- Because of corruption, tax collectors often collected more than normal and when taxes could not be paid, they often gave loans with high interest.



Tax collectors were often seen as sinners

*Now the **tax collectors and sinners** were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”*

- Luke 15:1-2

*The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: “God, I thank you that I am not like other men, **extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.**”*

- Luke 18:11

Zacchaeus' desire to see Jesus

*And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. **So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him**, for he was about to pass that way.*

- Luke 19:3-4





Zacchaeus desired to see
Jesus but was undeserving...
But are we any different?

*“for all have sinned and fall
short of the glory of God.”*

(Rom 3:23)

Jesus calls out to Zacchaeus

And when Jesus came to the place,
he looked up and said to him,
“Zacchaeus, hurry and come down,
for I must stay at your house today.”

- Luke 19:5



Jesus invites himself to Zacchaeus home

*So he (Zacchaeus) hurried and came down and received him joyfully. **And when they saw it, they all grumbled, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner."***

- Luke 19:6-7



What God has done and is doing for us

“For the Son of Man came to
seek and to save the lost.”

- Luke 19:10





The Salvation of Zacchaeus

And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.”

- Luke 19:8



How shall we respond?

1. With gratitude for what God has done
2. Be intentional in our pursuit of a life that honors and pleases God.

