

Title: A View from the Top

Text: Luke 19:1-10

Target: Grace always climbs higher.

1. **A Tax Collector that's Rich:** *"And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich."* (Vs. 2)

- a. **Unwanted:** Served the Roman Empire
- b. **Unclean:** Association with the Gentiles

Discussion Question #1: *Have you ever felt like an outsider in your faith journey? What caused that and how did you respond?*

Discussion Question #2: *Who in your life today might feel "unwanted" or "unclean" by others? How can we show them grace like Jesus did for Zacchaeus?*

2. **A Sycamore Tree that Lifts:** *"And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature."* (Vs. 3)

- a. **The Crowd:** *"On account"*
- b. **His Curiosity:** *"ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him"* (Vs. 4)
- c. **Jesus' Compassion:** *"Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today."* (Vs. 5)

Discussion Question #3: *What's the "tree" you've had to climb just to get a glimpse of Jesus? (i.e., an act of faith, risk, or obedience)*

Discussion Question #4: *Has the "crowd", culture, friends, church hurt, or comparison, ever made it hard for you to see Jesus clearly?*

Discussion Question #5: *What does it mean to you that Jesus sees and calls you personally, even when others overlook you?*

3. **A Table that Knits:** *"So he 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."* (Vs. 6-7)

Discussion Question #6: *What's your reaction when Jesus welcomes people you think don't deserve it?*

Be honest: *Who is someone you've struggled to believe God can change?*

When have you had to choose connection with someone even though others didn't approve? What happened?

4. A Testimony that Shifts: *"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." (Vs. 8)*

a. Repentance: *"stood" and "said to the Lord"*

b. Restitution: *"I restore it fourfold"*

c. Recognition: *"salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham." (Vs. 9)*

Discussion Question #7: *Has there been a moment in your life where Jesus' grace led to real change? What shifted in your heart or habits?*

Discussion Question #8: *Is there anything in your life right now that God may be asking you to make right? What would taking that step look like?*

5. A Title that Fits: *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." (Vs. 10)*

Discussion Question #9: *Where were you when Jesus found you? What does "lost" mean in your story?*

Discussion Question #10: *Who is someone in your life right now who feels lost? How can you help point them toward Jesus?*

Takeaway: One moment with Jesus can rewrite your whole story.

What part of your story are you still waiting for Jesus to rewrite?

How does this story of Zacchaeus give you hope for that rewrite?