

LIFE Community Sermon Notes

Luke 19

Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

1Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. 2A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. 3He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. 4So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

5When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." 6So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

7All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.' "

8But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

9Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

LIFE Community Sermon Notes

Sunday, July 22

Big Idea: Everyone can fulfill the mission of God's call on their lives by knowing their purpose, their mission and their message

Key Verse:

Opening Question: What is the most significant thing that has happened to you in the past week?

Questions in **bold** below are suggested focus questions.
Sections in *italics* and/or parenthesis are for the leaders notes.

Bruce emphasized throughout his message that he believed every believer in Jesus Christ has a call from God on their lives. Each person can fulfill that call by knowing their mission, their purpose and their message. Spend time in your group this week sharing with each other what your call from God is. If you don't know what your call is, share what you are feeling or hearing from God at the moment, or perhaps share what plans you are making to discover God's call on your life. Bruce shared seven steps each person should go through to discover their call:

1. Be sure you are a believer.
2. Understand that the Holy Spirit is guiding you.
3. Know your spiritual gifts.
4. Ask for wisdom and discernment.
5. Ask leaders of the church to help you.
6. Start living it out.
7. Remind yourself that the church is basic training for world evangelism.

Discussion Questions

1. **Which one of those seven steps do you find yourself at?**
2. **How can you move on to the next step?**
3. **What is stopping you from living out your call right now?**
4. **How might the group help you in living out your call?**
5. **What is your mission, purpose and message?**

Leader's Notes

1. *This week take a break from the Tough Questions series and have your group share rather informally with each other. Open God's Scripture and read together, encouraging each other to discover God's call in your life.*