

## **“Who Is Seeking Who?” (Luke 19:1-10)**

### **March 20, 2016**

- 1. Contrast to the previous story about a rich man (Luke 18:18-30)**
- 2. Jesus is on a “final journey” to Jerusalem (started in 9:52)**
  - Luke 19:28ff—Palm Sunday story
- 3. Both Jesus and Zacchaeus are “seeking” (the word used in verse 3 & 10 are the same—*zeteo*)**
- 4. Zacchaeus is seeking Jesus...**
  - Verse 3-4 (2 steps)
  - He wants to see Jesus the “rock star” as he travels through town
  - Like some of us?: we are maybe “seeking” God / Jesus but rather nonchalant, cavalier about it all—“Just a glimpse is all I need / want.”
- 5. Jesus is seeking Zacchaeus...**
  - Verse 5-6 (3 steps, progressively more shocking)
  - Connected to Luke 19:10 (theme verse of Luke?; youth group)
- 6. Jesus is like God—seeking and pursuing others:** (1) garden of Eden (“Where are you?”); (2) Psalm 23:5-6 (“Surely your goodness and love will *pursue* me”)
- 7. What effect does Jesus’ seeking have on people?**
  - It gives us joy (“He received him gladly”)—why?: the celebrity / King is visiting me!
  - Radical transformation/ generosity

**“But 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.”(Luke 19:8)**

“Zacchaeus . . . went from being an oppressor of the poor to being a champion of justice. He went from accruing wealth at the expense of people around him to serving others at the expense of his wealth. Why? Jesus had replaced money as Zacchaeus’s savior, and so money went back to being merely that, just money. It was now a tool for doing good, for serving people. Now that his identity and security were rooted in Christ, he had more money than he needed. The grace of God had transformed his attitude toward his wealth.”

(Counterfeit Gods, pg 64)

- Jesus: “I seek you as you are but I come in order to save / transform you”

## **8. Why is this important?**

- See Jesus rightly: he takes initiative to bring salvation into our lives; he has purpose, meaning and authority
- See “sinners” rightly: to be respected; see them through the lens of the ministry of Jesus
- See ourselves right: has Jesus visited us? Do we see the evidence of His presence?