

DOWN TO EARTH

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



WEEK 2 | GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

CONNECT

- What is your go-to meal when having friends or people over for dinner?

CONSIDER

- What encouraged or challenged you from the sermon and/or daily devotions this week?

CHRIST

Read Luke 19:1-10 as a group.

- Tax collectors were universally hated, because they entered into the service of the Romans and amassed their fortunes at the expense of their own people. They were prohibited from the synagogue and couldn't provide legal testimony. They were the lowest of the low. In v. 2, we learned that Zaccheus was a chief tax collector, only escalating the above feelings. **What modern groups of people might experience rejection similar to Zacchaeus the tax collector?**
- Zaccheus was running, climbing, and doing everything he could to see Jesus (v.4). **What does this say about Zaccheus? Currently, how are you running and climbing after Jesus?**
- Given Zaccheus's social status, the invitation of Jesus coming to his house was completely unexpected. **How would you feel to be chosen like this by Jesus? What feelings come to mind at the thought of Jesus coming over to your house? Does it surprise you that Jesus would offer this meal invitation to someone considered a social outcast?**
- To say Zaccheus would have some insecurities is an understatement. His height and social status would have brought all types of rejection. But, Jesus doesn't reject him. In fact, He wants to spend more time with him. **On a scale of 1-10, how big of a deal is rejection for you? What kinds of rejection bother you most? Why?**
- Jesus accepts Zaccheus and starts a relationship with him. His response to God's love shows how much he was longing to be restored with God and his community. **Why do we**

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sometimes find it hard to accept God's acceptance? Has this ever been difficult for you? Share an example of when someone's acceptance made a difference in your life.

- Luke 19:8 says, *"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."* **Why does this extravagant response make sense in light of God's love for Zaccheus? How has God's love prompted you to do something extravagant for His Kingdom? Is there something our group could do to serve someone else in response to God's love?**
- Jesus ends this moment reminding us of His mission to seek and save the lost. **Practically, what is one thing you can do this week, to help someone feel loved and accepted by God?**

CALLING

- Just like Zaccheus, what are you doing to run and climb to see Jesus? If nothing is coming to mind, you may be missing Jesus by just letting Him pass by. What's one change you need to make to pursue Jesus this week?
- **Daily Devotions:** Take the time to read the daily devotions associated with this study. Then, to continue with this spiritual habit of daily devotion with God, text JOINGOD to 81411 or use the Study tab in Northside's App to receive devotions on a daily basis moving forward.
- **Further Study & Reflection:** Our fears of rejection and insecurities disappear in light of God's love. What does it mean to live a life beloved by God? Read *Life Of The Beloved* by Henri Nouwen to find out.
- **Memorize:** *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."* **Luke 19:10**