11

WALKING ON THE ROAD WITH JESUS

Jesus and Zacchaeus

Luke 19:9–10

BIG IDEA:

Jesus came to seek and save everyone, no matter who they are.

WEEK 11

THE STORY OF ZACCHAEUS

LUKE 19:1–10

MEMORY VERSE

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

Luke 19:10 (NIV)

BIG IDEA

Jesus came to seek and save everyone, no matter who they are.

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus welcomes everyone to follow Him.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- Chair, stool, or taped "tree" area
- (Optional) Robe or scarf for Jesus
- (Optional) Name tag for Zacchaeus
- (Optional) Dialogue Card (for practice)

TIME BREAKDOWN

Welcome & Opener	– 3 min
Bible Story	– 8 min
Main Activity	– 15 min
Teaching Connection	– 3 min
Prayer & Wrap-Up	– 2 min

TOTAL – 31 min

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

Jesus was traveling through Jericho when He saw Zacchaeus, a tax collector, climb a sycamore tree to see Him. Jesus stopped, called Zacchaeus by name, and invited Himself to Zacchaeus' house. Zacchaeus was surprised and happy! He welcomed Jesus and promised to make things right with others.

KEY POINTS

1. Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus.
2. Jesus saw Zacchaeus and stopped for him.
3. Jesus called Zacchaeus by name and invited Himself to his house.
4. Zacchaeus welcomed Jesus and changed his heart.
5. Jesus came to seek and save people who were lost and needed Him.

WHAT THIS MEANS

- Sometimes people feel overlooked, left out, or forgotten.
- Jesus notices people others may ignore.
- He knows us, loves us, and invites us to follow Him.
- Jesus came to seek and save people who were lost and needed Him.

LIFE APPLICATION

- Notice someone who might feel overlooked.
- Learn their name.
- Invite them to join you.
- Treat others the way Jesus treated Zacchaeus.

OPTIONAL TEACHING ILLUSTRATION

STOP AND NOTICE

Choose a volunteer. Have everyone focus on another task for a moment. Then stop and intentionally notice something specific about the volunteer (their smile, their shirt, something they did well, something kind they shared).

Ask: How did it feel when someone noticed you?

Teaching Point: Jesus noticed Zacchaeus when others overlooked him.

MAIN ACTIVITY

JESUS STOPPED

1. Choose one child to be Zacchaeus. Have them stand in the "tree" area (a chair, stool, or taped spot).
2. The rest of the class becomes the crowd and moves around the room.
3. You (the teacher) are Jesus. Walk through the crowd. Look around. Pass several children.
4. Suddenly STOP. Look up at Zacchaeus.
5. Say: "Zacchaeus, come down. I want to spend time with you today." (Pause.)
6. Let Zacchaeus come down and stand with you.
7. Discuss together how Zacchaeus felt.

Optional: Practice the Zacchaeus dialogue together. (See Dialogue Card.)

TEACHING CONNECTION

- Jesus didn't just see a crowd—He saw Zacchaeus.
- Everyone else saw a tax collector.
- Jesus saw someone He loved.
- Jesus stopped and gave Zacchaeus His attention.
- Jesus came to seek and save people who were lost and needed Him.

PRAYER & WRAP-UP

SAY:

Dear Jesus, thank You for noticing people, just like You noticed Zacchaeus. Thank You for loving us no matter who we are or what others think of us. Help us to see others the way You do, notice them, and love them well. Amen.

REMIND KIDS:

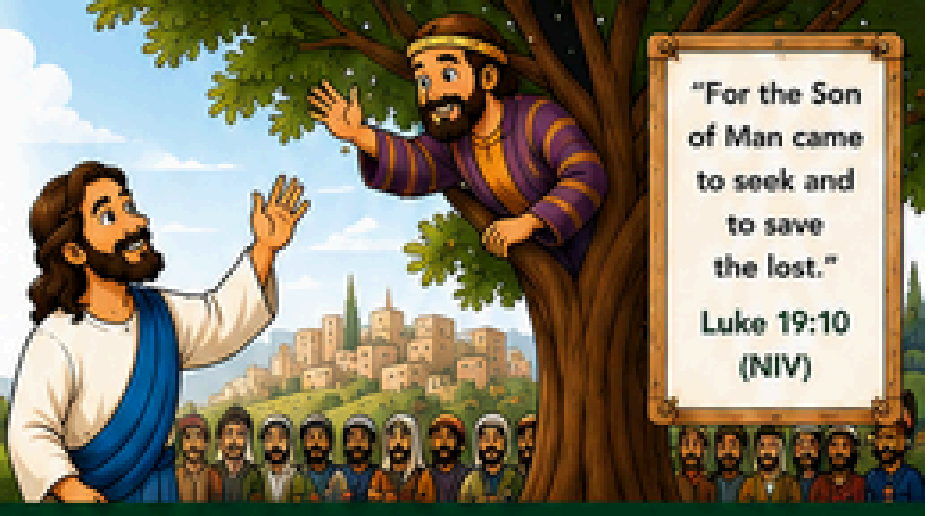
Jesus came to seek and save everyone, no matter who they are. He welcomes you and invites you to follow Him!

ROAD SIGN

TRUST
FOLLOW
OBEY

WALKING ON THE ROAD
- with Jesus -

A JOURNEY OF FAITH



> "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."
> Luke 19:10 (NIV)

WEEK 11

FAMILY JOURNEY

THE STORY OF ZACCHAEUS

LUKE 19:1–10

LEARN THE STORY

MEMORY VERSE

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

Luke 19:10 (NIV)

BIG IDEA

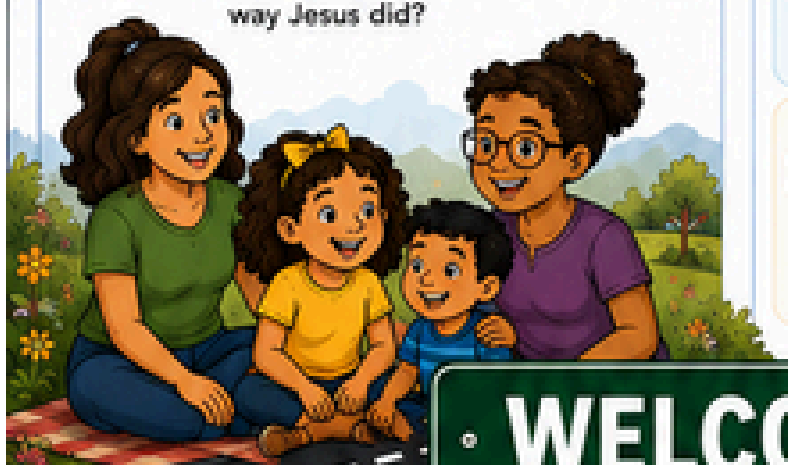
Jesus came to seek and save everyone, no matter who they are.

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY

Zacchaeus was a tax collector who wanted to see Jesus. Because he was short, he climbed a tree to get a better view. Jesus stopped, called Zacchaeus by name, and invited Himself to Zacchaeus' house. Zacchaeus was surprised and happy! Jesus showed that no one is beyond His love and grace.

JOURNEY TALK

- Why did Zacchaeus climb the tree?
- Why do you think Jesus stopped?
- How do you think Zacchaeus felt when Jesus called his name?
- What does this story teach us about Jesus?
- How can we notice people the way Jesus did?



LIVE THE STORY

Notice and Name

Jesus stopped and noticed Zacchaeus.
As a family, choose one way to slow down and pay attention this week.

1. NOTICE SOMEONE

- Sit quietly together for one minute.
- Share one thing you noticed.
- Share one person you noticed.
- Share one reason you are thankful.

2. COMPLIMENT CIRCLE

Take turns sharing something you appreciate about each family member.

3. NOTICE AND DRAW

- Spend two minutes quietly observing outside or near a window.
- Draw something you might normally miss.

4. JESUS STOPPED

- Think of someone who may feel overlooked.
- Talk about how your family could encourage them this week.

JOURNEY TRUTH

No one is invisible to Jesus.

FAMILY REMINDER

Jesus stopped and gave Zacchaeus His attention. When we slow down and pay attention, we can notice people the way Jesus did.

FAMILY PRAYER

Dear Jesus,
Thank You for seeing people others may overlook. Help us slow down, pay attention, and show Your love to the people around us. Amen.

LOOKING AHEAD CHALLENGE

STOP. NOTICE. LOVE.

At the end of the week ask:

- Who did we notice?
- Who did we encourage?
- How did we show God's love?

WELCOME EVERYONE

Jesus came to seek and save everyone, no matter who they are.