



# Jesus and Zacchaeus

Lesson Aim: To know Jesus came for you.

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God Is:** The King Who Serves

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Luke 19:1-10

**What He Has Done:** Jesus came to seek Zacchaeus.

## THE WAY

**Bible Memory Verse:** "His love endures forever." Psalm 100:5

Unit 2: The King Who Serves			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
7	Jesus Teaches: Forgiveness, Matthew 5:1-2, 7	Jesus taught the crowd to forgive.	To know God is happy when we forgive.
8	Jesus and Nicodemus, John 3:1-5, 16	Jesus taught Nicodemus about salvation.	To know God loves the world.
9	Jesus and the Woman at the Well, John 4:7, 25-26, 28-30, 42	Jesus spoke to the woman at the well.	To know God wants us to tell others about Jesus.
10	Jesus with Mary and Martha, Luke 10:38-42	Jesus encouraged Martha to spend time with Him.	To know Jesus wants us to spend time with Him.
11	Jesus and Zacchaeus, Luke 19:1-10	Jesus came to seek Zacchaeus.	To know Jesus came for you.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 119:170-176. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord Jesus, for coming to seek and save the lost. Use us to help the children see the magnitude of this truth. Amen."

## TEACHER'S TIP

**Jesus came for you.** Today, we hear how Jesus called Zacchaeus down from the tree and went to his home. How surprised Zacchaeus must have been when Jesus called his name! In a moment, he knew Jesus was more than just a man and that he, a lowly tax collector, was important to Jesus. Let's make sure our children know how important they are to us and to Jesus. Regularly, call each child by name. Tell them how special they are to you and to Jesus and that Jesus loves them. His love is so big we could never measure it.



# THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Welcome</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a tree
		<b>Coloring Center:</b> Jesus and Zacchaeus	Coloring pages of Jesus and Zacchaeus, crayons or markers
		<b>Play-Dough Center:</b> A Visit from Jesus	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		<b>Block and Car Center:</b> Traveling by Foot	Blocks and cars, picture of Jesus
		<b>Discovery Center:</b> How Tall?	Tree height chart, pen, tape
	Up to 5	<b>Prepare for Worship</b>	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.  <b>Additional Song Suggestions:</b> "Zacchaeus" "Jesus Loves the Little Children"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments <b>Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "How Wide?" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Be Still and Know" "Do You Love Me?" "Everyone Who Calls" "Guide Me" "His One and Only Son" "I Will Listen" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 2, Lesson 11
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Luke 19:1-10	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 19:5 Visual: Picture of the Bible story, binoculars, two tall children or two adult helpers
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Zacchaeus in the Tree	Sturdy green and brown paper, standard white paper, markers or crayons, tape
		<b>Game:</b> Here I Am!	None
		<b>Game:</b> Act It Out	Optional: step stool, song: "Zacchaeus"
		<b>Snack:</b> Zacchaeus' Fig Treat	Figs or fig bars
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 2, Lesson 11
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Luke 19:1-10	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> His Love Endures Forever	Beach ball or other soft ball for tossing
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Circle of Love	None
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about how Jesus came for each of us

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus as the King who serves

# THE WELCOME

## WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a tree. **Let this stamp (or sticker) remind you that Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Jesus over the crowd.**

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**Teacher's Note:** These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

## COLORING CENTER: JESUS AND ZACCHAEUS

### **SUPPLIES**

Coloring pages of Jesus and Zacchaeus, crayons or markers

### **DO**

Children color their picture as they talk about the story.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowds of people. It's no fun when we are too small or too short to do the things we want to do. What can you do now that you couldn't do when you were a baby?** (Children respond.)

## PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: A VISIT FROM JESUS

### **SUPPLIES**

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

### **DO**

Children play with the play-dough while they discuss spending time with Jesus. Encourage children to make a tree with the play-dough.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Today, we will learn Jesus visited a man named Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Jesus over the crowds of people. Jesus loved to spend time with Zacchaeus and He loves spending time with you. How can you spend time with Jesus?** (Read the Bible or Bible storybooks, pray, sing, come to church, etc.)

# THE WELCOME *continued...*

## **BLOCK AND CAR CENTER: TRAVELING BY FOOT**

### **SUPPLIES**

Blocks and cars, picture of Jesus

### **DO**

Children think about how Jesus traveled to visit people.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Jesus traveled to many towns to visit with people. Did He have a car? (No.) Did He take the bus? (No.) What about a plane? (No.) Do you know how Jesus traveled from place to place? (He walked.) See how many towns you can build with the blocks. Then, let's walk Jesus from each town to the next.** Children could also "walk" their fingers from town to town instead of using the block with Jesus on it.

## **DISCOVERY CENTER: HOW TALL?**

### **SUPPLIES**

Tree height chart, pen, tape

### **DO**

Tape the height chart to the wall. Children take turns being measured as they talk about Zacchaeus.

### **TALK ABOUT**

One at a time, measure and mark each child's height on the height chart. **Today's story is about a man named Zacchaeus who was too short to see over the crowd. We don't know exactly how tall Zacchaeus was but we can measure how tall you are. Let's see how you've grown.**

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## **PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

**It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away.** Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com))

**"His  
love  
endures forever."  
Psalm 100:5**

The open right hand, facing forward, moves outward twice.  
(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.  
Use index finger to make circles in the air (circles have no end).  
Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



Jesus as the King who serves

# THE WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Praise music, optional: musical instruments

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



**Jesus knows our names and He loves each one of us. Let's take a moment and tell Jesus we love Him.** Have children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear Jesus, thank You for loving us so much that You know us by name and want to spend time with us. We love You, too. Amen.**



**God made each of us in a special and different way. He loves each one of us. He came to save everyone who believes in Him.** Sing: "Everyone Who Calls."

**We read the Bible so we know what God wants us to do. God will lead us, or guide us, where He wants us to go. As we give our offering of money, let's sing a song asking God to guide us.** Sing: "Guide Me" while collecting the offering.



**In our story today, Jesus meets a man named Zacchaeus. Let's visit with our friends Delbert and Lello to see if they have heard the story of Jesus and Zacchaeus.**

Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read the storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 2, Lesson 11.



**Optional: Zacchaeus was happy when Jesus called his name. Let's sing a song that tells us the story of Zacchaeus.** Sing: "Zacchaeus."



**Jesus loved Zacchaeus so much He called to him and wanted to spend time with him. Zacchaeus knew Jesus' love endures forever. Let's practice our Bible Memory Verse together with the motions.**

**"His  
love  
endures forever."  
Psalm 100:5**

The open right hand, facing forward, moves outward twice.  
(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.  
Use index finger to make circles in the air (circles have no end).  
Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



**Zacchaeus learned Jesus' love was wide** (All spread arms.) **and long** (All reach arms forward.) **and high** (All reach high.) **and deep** (All squat down low.). **Let's sing of Jesus' love that lasts forever.** Sing Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song: "How Wide?" with the motions.



Jesus came for Zacchaeus

## THE WORD

**Supplies:** Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 19:5, picture of the Bible story, binoculars, two tall children or two adult helpers

**Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.**

<b>With my eyes on my teacher;</b>	Point to eyes.
<b>My mouth quiet as can be,</b>	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
<b>I will listen to hear,</b>	Cup hand around ear.
<b>How God loves you and me.</b>	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

**Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears.** Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Sit in a chair with the binoculars in your lap. Have the two tall children or adult helpers stand in front of you. **Good morning children! I brought some binoculars with me today.** Hold them to the side of the children or adult helpers standing in front of you so the children can see them. **I brought them so I could see things that are far away. But I have a problem because I can't see anything.** Names of the people in front of you **are too tall for me to see over.** Motion for them to sit down.

**Have you ever tried to see over people who were taller than you?** (Children respond.) **What did your Mom or Dad do to help you see?** (Lifted them up, placed them on their shoulders or on a chair.) **Today's Bible story is about a man who couldn't see over the crowd. Let's find out what happened.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Luke 19:5.



### WATCH THE WORD: LUKE 19:1-10

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **Zacchaeus lived in Jericho;**
- **He was rich and very short.**
- **When he heard Jesus was coming,**
- **He wanted to see the Lord.**
  
- **He had to climb up in a tree,**
- **To see above the crowd.**
- **Then Lord Jesus called his name,**
- **"Zacchaeus, you come down.**
  
- **I'm staying at your house today."**
- **"Here I am!" Zacchaeus said as he climbed down the tree.**
- **Jesus had come for Zacchaeus,**
- **And He came for you and me.**

**What did Zacchaeus say when Jesus called him down from the tree? ("Here I am.") Zacchaeus was excited to spend time with Jesus. Jesus wants to spend time with us, too. Like Zacchaeus, let's tell Jesus, "Here I am." Are you ready? Let's say it together: "Here I am!"**



Jesus came for us

## THE WAY

**Teacher Tip:** Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

### **CRAFT: ZACCHAEUS IN THE TREE**

**Purpose:** For children to make Zacchaeus in the tree as a reminder to present themselves to Jesus.

**Supplies:** Sturdy green and brown paper, standard white paper, markers or crayons, tape

**Prepare:**

1. Print a picture of Zacchaeus for children to color. From the green paper, cut out the outline of a treetop. Print:  
**"Here I am."**
2. From the brown paper, cut out the outline of a tree trunk. At the bottom, print:  
**Jesus and Zacchaeus**  
**Luke 19:1-10**
3. Cut a slit lengthwise on the tree trunk.
4. From the brown paper, cut out a 1"x3" rectangle tab to tape to the back of Zacchaeus. Crease the tab in half on its width.

**Adaptation for Ages 2-3:** This craft was developed for ages 4-5. To adapt the craft for younger children, you may choose to eliminate the slit in the tree trunk and the tab on the back of Zacchaeus. Another option would be to create a standing tree using part of a paper towel roll for the tree trunk and attach the outline of a treetop from green paper for the treetop. Print a picture of Zacchaeus (and Jesus, if you choose to) for children to color and act out the story.

**Directions:**

1. Color Zacchaeus.
2. Tape half of the tab to the back of Zacchaeus, leaving the other half loose to be a small handle.
3. Glue the green tree top to the brown trunk.
4. Help children slide the handle part of the tab through the slit in the trunk.
5. Show the children how to grasp the tab from the back of the tree trunk to make Zacchaeus climb up and down the tree.

**Craft Discussion:**

- **Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus. Why couldn't he see Jesus?** (He was too short.)
- **What did Zacchaeus climb to see Jesus?** (A tree.)
- **Who looked for Zacchaeus in the tree?** (Jesus.)
- **Let's pretend Jesus is calling for Zacchaeus to come out of the tree. Have Zacchaeus climb down as he says "Here I am."**

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: HERE I AM!**

**Purpose:** Children will play a game in which they will practice responding, "Here I am!" to Jesus.

**Supplies:** None

**Jesus came to see Zacchaeus. He looked up and called to Zacchaeus in the tree. Imagine what it would be like to have Jesus call your name! When I call your name, jump as high as you can, look up toward Jesus in heaven and shout, "Here I am!"**

### **Directions:**

1. Have the children sit in a circle on the floor.
2. Call out each child's name in random order.
3. Have the children jump high and shout "Here I am!" when they hear their name.
4. Continue playing until each child's name has been called.

## **GAME: ACT IT OUT**

**Purpose:** To review the story of Zacchaeus.

**Supplies:** Optional: step stool, song: "Zacchaeus"

### **Directions:**

1. Choose a child to play the part of Jesus and a child to play the part of Zacchaeus. Have Zacchaeus stand on a small step stool (be sure to hold their hand). When Jesus calls him down, have the child carefully jump off the step stool.
  - **Zacchaeus lived in Jericho; He was rich and very short.**
  - **When he heard Jesus was coming, He wanted to see the Lord.**
  - **He climbed up in a sycamore tree to see above the crowd.**
  - **As Jesus passed that way, He looked up in the tree.**
  - **He said, "Zacchaeus, you come down. I'm going to your house today."**
  - **"Here I am!" Zacchaeus said as he climbed down the tree.**
  - **Then, he and Jesus walked to his house where Zacchaeus welcomed Him gladly.**
2. Play several times so each child has a turn as Jesus or Zacchaeus.
3. If available, play the song "Zacchaeus" for the children as they sing along. Create your own motions to go with the words.



# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: ZACCHAEUS' FIG TREAT**

**Purpose:** Children enjoy a fig snack and discuss what they would say if they met Jesus.

**Snack Suggestion:** Figs or fig bars

### **Directions:**

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.  
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.**  
**Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **Jesus looked for Zacchaeus. Where did He find him?** (In a tree.)
  - **Zacchaeus climbed a special kind of tree called a fig tree. We are eating a special fig treat to remind us of the tree Zacchaeus climbed to see Jesus!**
  - **Jesus looked for Zacchaeus because He wanted to go to his house. What would you say to Jesus if He wanted to go home with you?** (Children respond.)
  - **Just as Jesus came for Zacchaeus, He came for you. What can you say to Jesus?** Lead children in saying: **"Here I am."**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

<b>"His</b>	The open right hand, facing forward, moves outward twice.
<b>love</b>	(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
<b>endures forever."</b>	Use index finger to make circles in the air (circles have no end).
<b>Psalms 100:5</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

### **PRAY**

**Let's pray together.** Say a closing prayer with the children.

### **PLAY**

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

### **DISMISSAL**

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SAY & DO: LUKE 19:1-10**

**Purpose:** This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the Bible Story details.

**Directions:** With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Zacchaeus lived in Jericho;** (Hands on hips.)
- **He was rich and very short.** (Bend knees to be shorter.)
- **When he heard Jesus was coming,** (Cup hand at ear.)
- **He wanted to see the Lord.** (Use fists as binoculars.)
  
- **He had to climb up in a tree,** (Pretend to climb a tree.)
- **To see above the crowd.** (Stand on tip toes.)
- **Then Lord Jesus called his name,** (Cup hands at mouth to call.)
- **"Zacchaeus, you come down.** (Point to ground.)
  
- **I'm staying at your house today."** (Point as if pointing to a person.)
- **Zacchaeus climbed down the tree.** (Pretend to climb down.)
- **Jesus had come for Zacchaeus,** (Point to heaven.)
- **And He came for you and me.** (Point to someone and then to self.)



### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES**

"His love endures forever." Psalm 100:5

### **GAME: HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER**

**Purpose:** Children move a sheet to discover the meaning of the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Beach ball or other soft ball for tossing

**Paul was one of Jesus' followers. He prayed that those who loved Jesus would know "how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ" (Ephesians 3:18). Our Bible Memory Verse tells us "His love endures forever." That means it never ends. Let's see how big Jesus' love is.**

**Directions:**

1. Children stand in a circle. Toss the ball to one of the children.
2. **Jesus' love is wider than** child make a suggestion (e.g. a house, the ocean). Lead all the children in saying the Bible Memory Verse, **"His love endures forever."**
3. Toss the ball to another child. **Jesus' love is longer than** child make a suggestion (e.g. my arms, a river). Lead all the children in saying the Bible Memory Verse, **"His love endures forever."**
4. Toss the ball to another child. **Jesus' love is higher than** child make a suggestion (e.g. a mountain, a skyscraper). Lead all the children in saying the Bible Memory Verse, **"His love endures forever."**
5. Toss the ball to another child. **Jesus' love is deeper than** child make a suggestion (e.g. the ocean, the deepest hole). Lead the children in saying the Bible Memory Verse, **"His love endures forever."**
6. Repeat until each child has a turn making a suggestion.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: CIRCLE OF LOVE**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

**Can you show me how big Jesus' love is?** Encourage children to stretch their arms wide to show the size of Jesus' love. **Let's learn our Bible Memory Verse. Our verse tells us how big Jesus' love is!**

### **Directions:**

1. Form a circle and hold hands.
2. Say the Bible Memory Verse together while doing the corresponding actions:

<b>"How wide and long</b>	Stretch circle outward.
<b>and high</b>	Hold each other's hands high to sky.
<b>and deep</b>	Hold each other's hands low to ground.
<b>is the love of Christ."</b>	Let go of hands and hug arms over chest.
<b>"His love endures forever."</b>	Hold hands again and walk in a circle.



## **STORY TIME**

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about how Jesus came for each of us.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 2, Lesson 11: Jesus and Zacchaeus

**PONDER!** Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Jesus (Luke 19:1-10). What did Zacchaeus say when Jesus called him down from the tree? ("Here I am.")

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for coming to earth for me and seeking me. Here I am, Lord. I want to spend time with You. Amen."

**PLAY!** Take turns pretending Jesus is calling you. One person says, "Jesus is seeking name of family member." That person jumps up and says, "Here I am." Give everyone a turn to say "Here I am" to Jesus.

### **UNIT 2 BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

<b>"His</b>	The open right hand, facing forward, moves outward twice.
<b>love</b>	(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
<b>endures forever."</b>	Use index finger to make circles in the air (circles have no end).
<b>Psalms 100:5</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.