



Here I Am

Jesus and Zacchaeus
Luke 19:1-10

Pop finished putting his tools away and picked up the broom. As he swept the floor, he heard footsteps. He looked up to see Delbert and Lello entering the barn.

"Hello, Pops!" Delbert called.

Pops smiled. "Hello! Are you finished delivering strawberries yet?"

Lello shook her head, "Not yet, we have two more deliveries."

"Wow! You two have been serving lots of your friends!" Pops exclaimed proudly.

"Haw! We sure have and it has been fun!" Delbert yelled, dancing around the barn.

Lello added, "Today, we are bringing some to my mommy."

Pops gently rubbed Lello's ears and whispered, "She'll love them."

"Pops, what have you been up to today?" Delbert asked curiously.

"I just finished cleaning up my tools and I was about to go read my Bible," he answered.

"What story are you going to read?" Lello asked.

"The story of Zacchaeus," Pops answered with a smile. Lello's eyes grew wide and she shared how she loved that story. Delbert asked Lello why.

"I like that Jesus saw someone who was little. It helps me remember Jesus sees me, too...even though I'm little," Lello explained.

"That's right, Lello. Jesus was visiting a town named Jericho. Zacchaeus lived there and he really wanted to see Jesus," Pops began.

"Haw! I would, too!" Delbert added.

"Baa. But, Zacchaeus was too short to see over the crowd. So he climbed a tree. Then Jesus came," Lello continued.

"Wow! What did Jesus do?" Delbert asked.

"He saw Zacchaeus and said, 'Zacchaeus, come down. I'm coming to your house today,'" Pops replied.

Delbert looked a bit confused. "Pops, how did Jesus know his name?"

Pops smiled and answered, "Jesus knows everyone's name, no matter how small they are."

"Baa, and He loves us, too!" Lello joyfully exclaimed. "If I had been in that tree and heard Jesus call my name, I would have said, 'Here I am, Lord!'"

"Lello, how did you know this story?" Delbert asked his friend.

"My mommy told it to me," she answered shyly.

"Haw! Lello! Let's go bring some strawberries to your mom right now! We can talk to her about Zacchaeus," Delbert suggested.

Lello loved that idea. They said goodbye to Pops and thanked him for the Zacchaeus story. Pops waved as Delbert and Lello ran out of the barn and across the field in search of Lello's mother.