

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY GUIDE

Climbing a Tree... To See Jesus!

Luke 19:1-10 (KJV) | July 19, 2026

Memory Verse

*"And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for today I must abide at thy house."
Luke 19:5 (KJV)*

Lesson Summary

Zacchaeus was a chief tax collector in Jericho. Many people disliked tax collectors because they were known for taking more money than they should. Zacchaeus had money, but he knew something was missing. When Jesus came through town, Zacchaeus wanted to see Him. Because he was short and the crowd blocked his view, he climbed a sycamore tree.

Jesus stopped beneath the tree, called Zacchaeus by name, and chose to visit his home. Meeting Jesus changed Zacchaeus. He decided to help the poor and repay anyone he had cheated. The story teaches us that Jesus knows us personally, welcomes people others may reject, and changes hearts and actions.

1. Do not let obstacles stop you

Zacchaeus could not see over the crowd, but he did not give up. He found another way to get closer to Jesus. We should not allow embarrassment, distractions, fear, or other people to stop us from seeking Christ.

2. Jesus knows your name

Jesus called Zacchaeus by name before Zacchaeus introduced himself. God knows who you are, what you are facing, and what you need.

3. Jesus changes lives

Zacchaeus did more than say he believed. His changed heart led him to make things right, help others, and live differently.

What We Can Learn

- Keep seeking Jesus.
- Do not let people or problems stop you.
- Remember that Jesus knows your name.
- Treat people with love, even when others reject them.
- A real relationship with Jesus changes the way we live.

Weekly Challenge

- Pray every day.
- Read Luke 19:1-10.
- Invite one friend to church or Sunday School.
- Do one act of kindness without expecting anything back.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us just as You loved Zacchaeus. Help us never let anything keep us from following You. Remind us that You know our names and have a purpose for our lives. Change our hearts so we can become more like Jesus every day. In Jesus' name, Amen.

YOUTH LESSON REVIEW

Discussion Questions

- 1 Why could Zacchaeus not see Jesus?
- 2 What did Zacchaeus do instead of giving up?
- 3 How did Jesus show that He knew Zacchaeus personally?
- 4 What changed after Zacchaeus met Jesus?
- 5 What is one way you can seek Jesus this week?

Quick Quiz

1. Why did Zacchaeus climb the tree?

- ☐ A. To pick fruit
- ☐ B. To hide
- ☐ C. To see Jesus
- ☐ D. To play

2. What kind of tree did Zacchaeus climb?

- ☐ A. Oak
- ☐ B. Pine
- ☐ C. Apple
- ☐ D. Sycamore

3. Jesus called Zacchaeus by...

- ☐ A. His nickname
- ☐ B. His name
- ☐ C. His job
- ☐ D. Nothing

4. What changed after Zacchaeus met Jesus?

- ☐ A. Nothing
- ☐ B. His house
- ☐ C. His heart
- ☐ D. His clothes

5. Why did Jesus come?

- ☐ A. To become king
- ☐ B. To seek and save the lost

☐ C. To teach only

☐ D. To heal only

Answer Key: 1-C, 2-D, 3-B, 4-C, 5-B

My Reflection

What did you learn about Jesus from Zacchaeus? How will you apply it this week?
