

Reflection Questions: Luke 19:1-10

For the message, "The Mission of Jesus" given by Pastor John Ferguson at Mercy Hill Church in Bryan/College Station, Texas, on April 24, 2022

These reflection questions are designed to help you apply the message from the Scriptures by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life. You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion. To review the message, go to MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages.

INTRODUCTION

Pray. Take a moment to pray asking God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.

Read the Scripture text: Luke 19:1-10

1 He entered Jericho and was passing through. **2** And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. **3** And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. **4** So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way.

5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." **6** So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. **7** And when they saw it, they all grumbled, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." **8** And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold."

9 And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. **10** For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

QUESTIONS

1. Zacchaeus was a hated and despised tax collector, yet he was seeking to see who Jesus was. What do you think this tells us about appearances and not writing anyone off as hopeless?
2. Notice that verse 3 doesn't simply say, "He was seeking to see Jesus," but that "he was seeking to see who Jesus was." Why is that distinction important? What questions might someone in Zacchaeus' position be asking when he wants to know who Jesus was?
3. Compare Jesus' reaction to Zacchaeus to the crowd's reaction when they saw that Jesus went into his house. What assumptions might Jesus be making that is different from what the crowd is making?
4. We don't know how long Jesus spent with Zacchaeus, but we do know the outcome: Zacchaeus was a changed man. Some might even say he was transformed by his encounter with Jesus. How would you put into words that change of perspective he had with his treasure?
5. Jesus tells us that his mission is to seek and to save the lost. What are the implications of each of these words: seek, save, the lost?

6. What comes into your mind when you think of a community of Jesus' followers who would be intentional in spending time with folks like Zacchaeus? Who would join the mission of Jesus in seeking and saving the lost? And what would the community be like who didn't do these things?

CONCLUSION QUESTION

What is the one thing you want to take away from this study to remember or to make a change in your life?

PRAYER

What are some ways you can turn what you are learning into prayer? List them as bullet points....

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