

HOME GROUP

Tuesday 1st July Jesus & Zacchaeus

Discussion starter: What sorts of things do people love to complain about?

Read Luke 19:1-10

Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

¹ Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ² A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. ³ He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

⁵ When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.' ⁶ So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

⁷ All the people saw this and began to mutter, 'He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.'

⁸ But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, 'Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.'

⁹ Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.' (NIV)

Optional extra: Let someone in your group retell this story in their own words.

- **1.** Who and what is Jesus confronted with here? Think about who Zacchaeus was and how he was viewed by those around him.
- **2.** How does Jesus relate to Zacchaeus and how do 'the people' react? What does that tell you about the work that Jesus has come to do in the world?
- 3. How does Zacchaeus show us what a life transformed by Jesus looks like?

4. Spend some time thinking about the summary of this story and the whole Gospel in verse 10: For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

How will a grasp of this amazing truth be seen in your life? You might like to think about:

- How we understand the person and work of Christ,
- How you view yourself,
- Your attitude to others you will meet this week,
- Our witness for the Lord Jesus.

Pray together in light of what we have been thinking about this evening.