

## **First Southern Baptist - Bible Study - 4-20-22w**

### **Zacchaeus - Lk 19:1-10**

#### **Introduction:**

Sycamore tree - easy to climb

#### **1. The Traitor**

- A. A thief of the government
    - Romans hired Jews to collect
    - bid for the right
    - set taxes, above that belong to the tax collector
    - 1) hated taxes
    - 2) hated Romans
    - 3) hated traitors
  - B. Rich (wealthy but not happy)
    - rich off others
    - riches have a cumulative effect
    - settled in
    - hardened sinner
    - but not happy - my view
    - he got what he wanted - but didn't
  - C. Social outcast
    - not a Roman
    - not owned by Jews
- All of that and short... "short man" syndrome

#### **2. Evidence of Change**

- A. A changed man - Something happened inside that house
  - traitor changed to generous follower
  - see lifestyle - see turn around
- B. Actions: - restitution
  - 1) went beyond what the law required
  - 2) deeds guarantee a testimony
  - at the end of the day what you do shouts your faith
- C. Jesus' announcement
  - He's a son of Abraham
  - he's saved (salvation in old and New Testament is by faith)
  - salvation has come

#### **3. What Just Happened?**

- A. A miracle
  - as much as the blind to see
  - as much as dead raised
  - deeds then hard - harder, rock
- B. How does it happen?
  - 1) Grace - Z was singled out

- almost never invited himself over
- no real reason
- we ask - why this man?
- does not deserve it
- if God can forgive this man...

2) Jesus Reached out -

G. Campbell Morgan - "Looked, saw, said"

-yeah, but even greater - he stopped

All the people, retinue, clamoring, shouting, dust, he stops???

!!) He stopped

We want to minister but we don't want to stop to do it -

Jesus interferes - yes, but why is that important?

Have our way of thinking!

3) Curiosity - determined (not easily turned away)

-ran ahead

-could not see - climbed a tree

-not easily dissuaded nor stopped

4) Then quickly -

-come down

-to house

-entertained

-it happened

Wow! Changed!

How!?

-we want to know how to help people make a Z decision...

5) Can't make it happen

Formula

Make sure folk find Jesus

We can provide the environment

Get people to be missionaries

Can't make it happen

Can design an atmosphere

Get youth to do right?

Can't!

Can make an atmosphere

Each person doing his/ her part

-preaching - no

-the music - no

-the youth program - no

-the sanctuary - no

-the literature - no

-the warm spirit - no

But all together