



Messages from a Mugging: Stop and See

Luke 19:1-10


 Luke 10:30–33 (NLT) Jesus replied with a story: “A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road. ³¹ “By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. ³² A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side. ³³ “Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him.”

Zacchaeus **needed** to **see** Jesus.


 Luke 19:1–4 (NIV) “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 being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see Him, since Jesus was coming that way.”

 John 3:30 (NIV) “He must become greater; I must become less.”

Zacchaeus needed **Jesus** to **see** him.

 Luke 19:5a (NIV) “When Jesus reached the spot, He looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately.”


Jesus **saw** what Zacchaeus **needed**.

 Luke 19:5b–10 (NIV) “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 what was lost.”

1. **Jesus saw that Zacchaeus needed **a visit**.** (Luke 19:5–7)

2. **Jesus saw that Zacchaeus needed **acceptance**.** (Luke 19:8–9)

3. **Jesus saw that Zacchaeus needed **salvation**.** (Luke 19:9–10)

 1 Timothy 1:15–16 “Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display His unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on Him and receive eternal life.”

IMPACT

- **Imitating Christ**
- **Meeting Needs**
- **Proclaiming the Good News**
- **Assimilating people into the church**
- **Celebrating God**
- **Teaching the Word of God**

Have you been unfairly labeled by the world? Has the world's opinion of you tainted what you think God thinks of you? Zacchaeus was desperate to see Jesus. --Are you? Are you willing to go out on a limb to see Him? Do you want to be seen by Jesus? What needs do you have that only Jesus can see? **Mark Twain** said, “**The two most important days in your life of the day you are born and the day you find out why.**” What is your “Why?”

