



Summer Quarter, Week 11

## A Little Man Followed Jesus

Your Children Will Learn:

- ☉ Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus
- ☉ Jesus saw Zacchaeus

### MEMORY VERSE FOR UNIT 12



**"Big crowds  
came to Jesus.  
Many of them  
followed Jesus."**

**MATTHEW 4:25**

Turn to Page 118 for  
Memory Verse Center tips and  
suggestions.

### truth for your children

Today's Bible Passage: Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man named Zacchaeus lived there. He was a chief tax collector and was very rich. Zacchaeus wanted to see who Jesus was. But he was a short man. He could not see Jesus because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore fig tree. He wanted to see Jesus, who was coming that way. Jesus reached the spot where Zacchaeus was. He looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down at once. I must stay at your house today." So Zacchaeus came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this. They began to whisper among themselves. They said, "Jesus has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.'" But Zacchaeus stood up. He said, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of what I own to those who are poor. And if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay it back. [continued on page 118]

### truth for you...A Meditation for Leaders

This story is a favorite to share with children. Perhaps it is because Zacchaeus is little like children are. Or, maybe it's because he climbed a tree and was adventurous like they are. Zacchaeus went to great lengths just to see Jesus. He simply didn't want to miss out! His efforts are admirable. But it is surpassed by the fact that Jesus wanted to see Zacchaeus! And, Jesus wanted to stay with Zacchaeus! Not because of the great effort Zacchaeus took to to see Him, but because Jesus saw that Zacchaeus was one of the lost. This was the mission of Jesus while He was here, and it is the mission He left for us. Pray and ask God to give you His heart for the lost, and boldness to pursue them as He did. "Then Jesus came to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. So you must go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.'" (Matthew 28:18-19)



**truth for your children**  
**Today's Bible Passage**  
**Luke 19:1-10**  
**continued from page 117**

I will pay back four times the amount I took." Jesus said to Zacchaeus, "Today salvation has come to your house. You are a member of Abraham's family line. The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them."

## Leaders: Pray

Ten minutes before the children arrive, gather together to pray for your class time. Invite the Holy Spirit's presence and ask Him to fill you up.

## Greet the children and Parents

**Greet one  
another with  
a kiss of love.**  
Romans 16:16

Greet each child by name as they arrive. Learn the names of their parents, too.

Give children visiting for the first time a small gift such as a special sticker or a colorful bookmark. Welcome the children to your classroom and introduce yourself to their parents.

## creative Activity centers . . . . . 40 min.

Choose two or three activities from the Table-Top Activity Guide. The Activity Guide on page 119 has everything you need to provide hands-on, creative activities that directly reinforce the lesson. Make open-ended play centers (such as blocks, housekeeping and imaginative dress-up) available as well.

## Memory verse center . . . 3-5 min.

Practice the verse together every week during activity center time, small group time or before worship time.

**Here is a tip:** Practice the verse in a special rhythm, such as a rap. Do it the same way every time you say the verse. Be crazy, make it fun, and the children will remember it.

**"Big crowds came  
to Jesus. Many of them  
followed  
Jesus."**  
Matthew 4:25

## clean up and prepare for worship . . . 5 min.

### time to worship! (10 min.)

- ☉ If you have a worship team to lead the children, gather everyone together to praise Jesus!
- ☉ If you lead worship, learn one or two simple songs. Allow time for children to share praises and prayers. Dance, sing, worship!



- ☉ Model worship for the children by being an active participant!



# Table-Top Activity Guide

## Week 11: A Little Man Followed Jesus

### 1. Collage Tree:

Copy the tree in the **Pattern Pages**. Tear green construction paper or pages of garden magazines into small pieces. Glue the torn paper "leaves" all over the branches of the tree. Be sure to not cover up little Zacchaeus in the tree branches!

**What's the Point?:** Children understand what it's like to be too small to see over the heads and shoulders of big people. Ask the children to imagine what it would be like to climb into the highest branches of a tree so they can see better. Say to the children: **"Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus; Jesus saw Zacchaeus."**

#### Supplies:

- Tree from the **Pattern Pages** copied on white paper
- Green construction paper or garden magazine pages
- Glue sticks

### 2. Group Height Chart:

This fun group activity requires a 4' x 4' piece of mural paper to be taped to an open wall area. Ask the children to come up one by one and stand against the paper. Use a marker to mark their height. Put their name beside the mark. Continue until everyone has had their height marked on the mural paper, including adults. Have the children color pictures of flowers on white paper. Attach the flowers with masking tape to decorate the height chart.

**What's the Point?:** The children will notice how small they are compared to the adults in the class. Ask them how tall they think Zacchaeus was. Make a mark on the on the height chart for him, too. Say to the children: **"Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus; Jesus saw Zacchaeus."**

#### Supplies:

- Mural paper
- White paper
- Masking tape
- Markers
- Crayons

### Note to Leaders:

Please choose 2 or 3 table-top activities.

Most of the activities can be adapted for any age.

Have fun!

Let the children do it!

Don't forget to copy...



### 3. Leaves for Zacchaeus:

Copy the leaf pattern from the **Pattern Pages**. Cut out 2 or 3 for each child. Color them with crayons and markers. Attach yarn to the leaves and hang them over your storytelling area. Use extra long pieces of yarn to create a leafy canopy the children can almost touch. Cut additional leaves from green construction paper and add them as needed.

**What's the Point?:** Sitting under the leafy canopy will make your story time memorable! Say to the children: **"Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus; Jesus saw Zacchaeus."**

#### Supplies:

- Green construction paper
- Leaves from the **Pattern Pages** copied on white paper
- Crayons and markers
- Yarn
- Masking tape

### 4. Stitched Paper Coin Purse:

Use these simple supplies to make a stitched coin purse. When the children are finished, you can fill it with Fruit Loops as pretend coins. Please see the **Pattern Pages** for complete directions.

**What's the Point?:** Zacchaeus was a very rich man. His encounter with Jesus was life changing! Zacchaeus pledged to give half of all he owned to the poor, as well as paying back four times the total he owed to those he had cheated! Say to the children: **"Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus; Jesus saw Zacchaeus."**

#### Supplies:

- Coin purse from the **Pattern Pages** copied on cardstock
- Yarn
- Markers
- Hole punch
- Self-stick Velcro tabs
- Masking tape



## "I Can Do That!"

### EASY IDEAS FOR CREATIVE STORYTELLING: Luke 19:1-10

10 minutes (Age 3)

15 minutes (Ages 4 & 5)

### create a Leafy canopy

Create a special storytelling area and make the story of Zacchaeus come alive for the children. Please see the "Leaves for Zacchaeus" activity on page 125.

- Once you've created the canopy of "Leaves for Zacchaeus," place a small chair next to it or somewhere under it.
- Invite the children to sit under the leaves during story time. Remind them not to pull on any of the leaves.
- During the story, choose a child to pretend to be Zacchaeus. Have the child climb up on the chair and stand, while you stand next to them.
- Help the child climb down off the chair and sit back down.
- After the story, allow the children to climb up on the chair and pretend that they are Zacchaeus. Stand next to them as they climb on and off of the chair.

## Story Time introduction

Hi boys and girls! Do you remember last week we learned about the large crowds of people that came to see Jesus? They followed Jesus around everywhere He went. Jesus taught the people. He taught them all about God. And, He healed the people. There were some people in the crowd who were sick. Jesus healed all of them!

Well, in our story today we're going to learn about a little man who wanted to see Jesus.

## Bible Story

**Storyteller:** The lesson from the Bible starts here. See the "I Can Do That" sidebar on this page for storytelling ideas.

Jesus traveled all over with his special friends. He wanted to teach more people about God. He wanted to heal more people that were sick. One day, Jesus and his special friends were leaving the city of Jericho. And, of course, there was a large crowd of people following them.

There was a man named Zacchaeus who lived in the city of Jericho. He was a tax man. He collected money from people. That made Zacchaeus a very rich man! He had a lot of money! But, people didn't like Zacchaeus very much because he took their money. Sometimes he took more money than he was supposed to.

Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was coming down the road. He wanted to see Jesus. He had never seen Him before. So, he followed the crowd. But the crowd was so large and the people were so tall! And Zacchaeus was a little man. He couldn't see anything at all because he was so short. But he really wanted to see Jesus!

So, Zacchaeus saw which way Jesus would be going. He ran ahead of the large crowd as fast as his little legs would carry him! Then he climbed up in a big tree. It was called a sycamore tree.

Now, let me ask all of you a question. Raise your hand if you have ever climbed up in a tree before? What does it feel like? Can you see better when you are up in a tree? **(Let the children answer.)** Well, Zacchaeus climbed up in a big tree so he could see better. Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus!

He sat down on a large branch in the big tree. **(Choose a child to pretend to be Zacchaeus. Have the child climb up on the chair and stand, while you stand next to them.)** Boy oh boy, Zacchaeus could see better! He could see the large crowd walking. There were a lot of people in that crowd and they were very noisy.

**ZACCHAEUS  
WANTED TO  
SEE JESUS**

**JESUS  
SAW  
ZACCHAEUS**

## Story time [cont.]

And then, Zacchaeus saw Jesus! That's who he wanted to see! And Jesus was walking towards the big tree he was in. Now he could really see Jesus!

When Jesus got to the big tree, He stopped and looked up. Jesus saw Zacchaeus. Jesus said, "Hey Zacchaeus. Come on down from that big tree. I'm going to your house today!" Well, there has never been anyone who climbed down a tree as fast as Zacchaeus did that day. **(Help the child climb down off the chair and sit back down.)**

Zacchaeus was so happy to have Jesus come and stay at his house! The two of them walked over to his house together. What do you think they did when they got to Zacchaeus' house? **(Let the children answer.)** Maybe they sat down inside the house, and had a cup of tea.

Well, the large crowd of people saw Jesus and Zacchaeus go to his house together. They started whispering to one another. Some of them said, **(whisper loudly)** "Jesus has gone to stay at Zacchaeus' house. Zacchaeus has done a lot of wrong things! He is not a very good person at all! Why would Jesus want to stay at his house?"

Zacchaeus heard what the large crowd was whispering about him. He knew he had done some things that were wrong. But now he wanted to change and do things that were right! So, he stood up and said to Jesus, "Look Jesus, I am a very rich man. I will give half of everything that I own to poor people. And the people that I took too much money from, I'll pay them all back. In fact, I'll pay them back more money than I took from them!"

Jesus looked at Zacchaeus and smiled at him. He knew that Zacchaeus had changed. Jesus said, "Someone in this house has changed their life today. That is why I came to your house Zacchaeus. I came to look for people that are doing things that are wrong. I came to save them so they can do things that are right."

Boys and girls, Zacchaeus was a different man after that day. Now, he wanted to do things that were right! So, he didn't lie to people anymore and he stopped taking too much of their money. He was much kinder to people, too.

Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus. So, he climbed up in a tree so he could see Him. And, Jesus saw Zacchaeus. He looked up in the tree and saw Him. Then Jesus spent the day with Zacchaeus at his house. They had a wonderful time together!

**Go to "Wrap It Up!" in the sidebar.**

## Great Big Holy Bible

The text and pictures in the Great Big Holy Bible follow your Bible lesson closely.

You may choose to use it during the Bible lesson segment of your class, or use it at the end to reinforce your dramatic storytelling.

## wrap it up!



**Storyteller:**  
If you are teaching 3's, simply repeat the points to them one more time. If you are teaching 4's

and 5's, repeat the points AND use these questions to help the children relate the story to their own lives.

**Today we learned that:**

⦿ **zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus.**

**(Why couldn't he see Jesus? What did he do?)**

⦿ **Jesus saw zacchaeus.**

**(Where did He see him? What did Jesus say to Zaccheaus?)**



# GAMES

## "ACT AND PLAY!"

Act out the Zacchaeus story while you play a game!

☉ Place a chair in an area where you have some room to play. Tell the children to come and stand in a circle around the chair.

☉ Choose a child to stand up on the chair and pretend to be Zacchaeus, while you stand next to them.

☉ Ask the children to hold hands and move around the chair in a circle and sing these words to the tune of "Are You Sleeping:"

*Zacchaeus wanted  
to see Jesus.  
Zacchaeus wanted  
to see Jesus.  
He climbed a tree,  
he climbed a tree.  
Jesus saw Zacchaeus.  
Jesus saw Zacchaeus.  
He climbed down.  
He climbed down.*

☉ Choose a different child to pretend to be Zacchaeus, and continue to play as long as the children are interested.

Snack Time.....10 min.

Small Groups.....5-10 min.

## How to Make it Happen:

Divide the children into small groups.

**1. Say:** Today we learned that Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus and that Jesus saw Zacchaeus.

**2. Ask:** Why couldn't Zacchaeus see Jesus? What did he do so he could see Jesus? What would you do so you could see Jesus? How did the people feel about Zacchaeus? How did Jesus feel about Zacchaeus?

**3. Pray:** Dear God, thank You for seeing big people and little people. Thank You that You want to spend time with me, just like You did with Zacchaeus. Amen.

## The Purpose of Small Groups:

TO BUILD  
RELATIONSHIPS WITH  
THE CHILDREN

TO RECAP THE LESSON  
OR POINTS

TO REVIEW THE  
MEMORY VERSE  
TOGETHER

ZACCHAEUS  
WANTED TO  
SEE JESUS

JESUS  
SAW  
ZACCHAEUS

## Time to Go!

Dismiss the children to parents or guardians only! Keep our children safe!

## Please Remember!

Photocopy "The Home Page" before church. Hand it to the parents when they pick up their children.



...see page 123



## Summer Quarter, week 11

# A Little Man Followed Jesus

Your Children Will Learn: ☉ Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus  
☉ Jesus saw Zacchaeus

### MONDAY

## Read & Do

Read Luke 19:1-10. Ask your child, "Why couldn't Zacchaeus see Jesus? What did he do? Where did Jesus see Zacchaeus? Then what happened?"

### TUESDAY

## Rest

Get in a comfy place with your child and imagine yourselves in the tree that Zacchaeus climbed. Ask, "What kinds of things can you see way up in this tree. What did Zacchaeus see when he was up in the tree? How do you think Zacchaeus felt when He saw Jesus? How would you feel? What happened after Zacchaeus saw Jesus?"

### WEDNESDAY

## Art

Cut open a few paper grocery sacks. Find a door of your home or wall area to cover using the bags, plain side up. Paint or draw a tree trunk and branches. Cut out "leaves" from colored paper or magazines. Let your child help create the tree while you talk about the tree Zacchaeus climbed.

### THURSDAY

## Snack

Have a leafy snack with your child! Dip lettuce leaves into your favorite dressing. Talk about how Zacchaeus was up in a tree with leaves all around him. Ask, "What did Jesus say to Zacchaeus when he saw him up in the tree? Then what happened? What do you think they did at Zacchaeus' house?"

### FRIDAY

## Pray & Praise

Zacchaeus was so eager to see Jesus that he did something that most people would consider silly. But he didn't care how silly he looked because he saw Jesus, and he spent time with Him! Spend time with Jesus today by praising Him together! Dance around, sing songs of praise and share the good things Jesus has done for you!

### SATURDAY

## Just for Parents...

This story is a favorite to share with children. Perhaps it is because Zacchaeus is little like children are. Or, maybe it's because he climbed a tree and was adventurous like they are. Zacchaeus went to great lengths just to see Jesus. He simply didn't want to miss out! His efforts are admirable. But it is surpassed by the fact that Jesus wanted to see Zacchaeus! And, Jesus wanted to stay with Zacchaeus! Not because of the great effort Zacchaeus took to to see Him, but because Jesus saw that Zacchaeus was one of the lost. This was the mission of Jesus while He was here, and it is the mission He left for us. Pray and ask God to give you His heart for the lost, and boldness to pursue them as He did. "Then Jesus came to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. So you must go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.'" (Matthew 28:18-19)



# Activity #1

## collage tree

### BEFORE CLASS:

- Copy the picture on white paper.
- Tear green construction paper or pages of garden magazines into small pieces.

### DURING CLASS:

- The children can glue the torn paper "leaves" all over the tree. Remind them to leave Zacchaeus and Jesus uncovered so they can see one another.
- Read the Bible verse to each child.

Cut out along bold outline



# Activity #3

## Leaves for zacchaeus

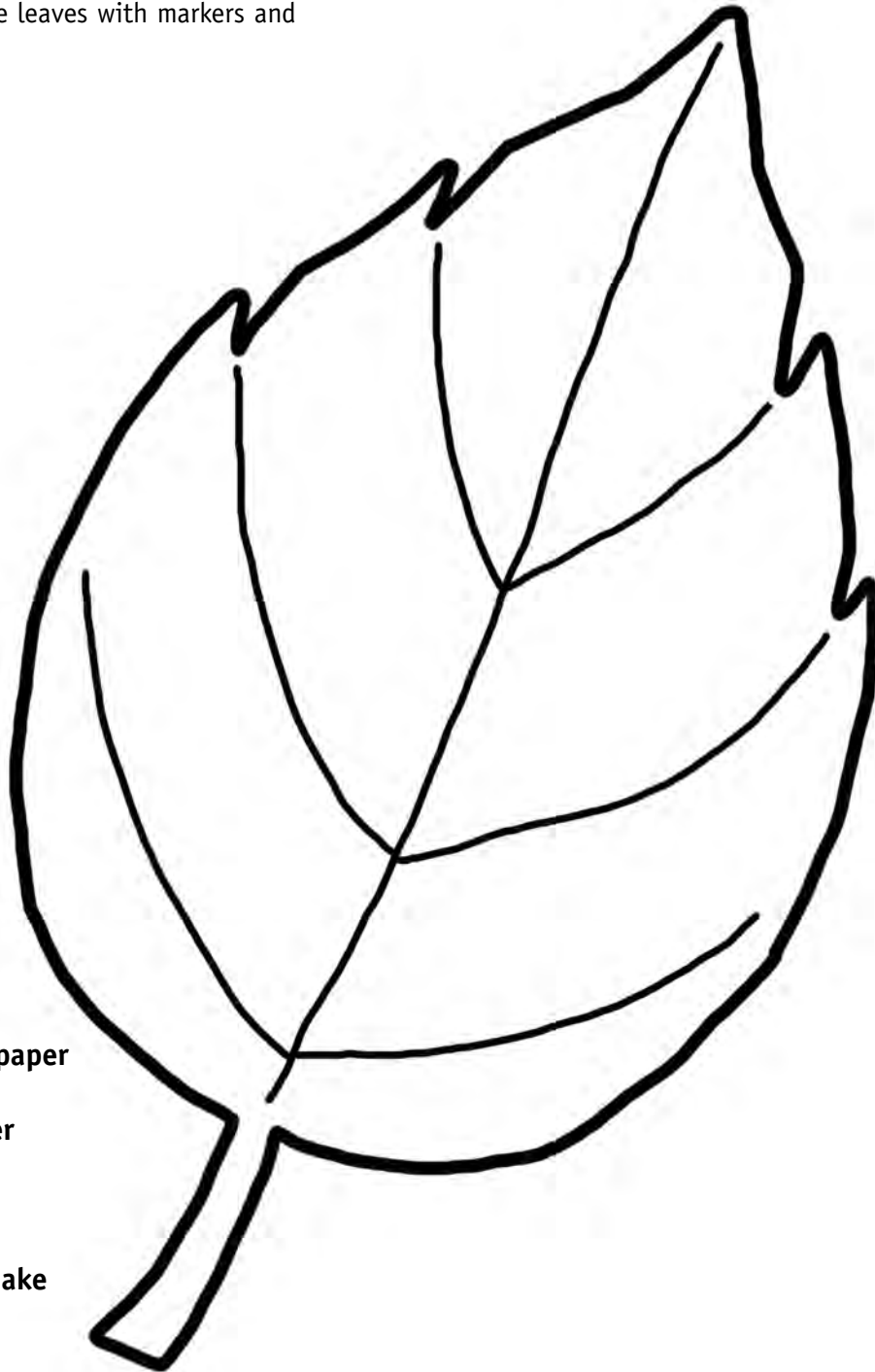
### BEFORE CLASS:

- Copy the leaf pattern on white paper. Cut out 2 or 3 leaves for each child.
- Trace the leaf on green construction paper and cut out extra leaves if needed.

### DURING CLASS:

- The children can color the leaves with markers and crayons.

- Tape yarn to the stem of the leaf. Tape the other end of the yarn to the ceiling. Hang up the additional green construction paper leaves.
- Group the leaves together over the storytelling area. Please see the "I Can Do That" sidebar on page 4 for storytelling tips.



Copy the leaf on white paper

Cut out 2 or 3 leaves per child.

Trace the leaf on green construction paper to make additional leaves.

# Activity #4

## Paper coin purse

### BEFORE CLASS:

- Copy the coin purse on white cardstock and cut it out.
- Fold the coin purse along the dotted lines.
- Punch holes through both layers at the black dots.
- Wrap one end of the yarn with masking tape to make a stiff point.

### DURING CLASS:

- The children can color the outside of the purse with markers and crayons.
- The children can push the yarn, with the masking tape point, in and out of the punched holes. Assist the children as needed.
- When the children finish, tape the yarn to the back of the coin purse so it is secure.
- Attach the self-stick Velcro tab at the large gray dot. (Please see the diagram.)
- Fill each purse with Fruit Loops as pretend coins.

