

# God's Pursuit of Us – Luke 19:1-10

## Message Discussion Guide

### Connect

- What is the greatest love story you have ever heard?

### Discover

- Which statement or experience stood out to you from the worship service?
- Read Luke 19:1-10.
  - What do you think led Zacchaeus to seek to see Jesus?
  - What must have gone through Zacchaeus' mind when Jesus stopped and said, "I'm coming to your house?" Describe what you think motivated the quick response and the joy mentioned in verse six.
  - What motivated the complaints of the crowd in verse seven? What were they thinking?
  - Why do you think Zacchaeus made the offer he made in verse 8? Summarize Jesus' reply.
- Read Genesis 3:8-11.
  - Why did Adam and Eve attempt to hide from the Lord? How do people do the same thing today?
  - Why do you think God asked questions of Adam and Eve when he had to have already known the answers?
  - Why do you think God came to the garden to have a conversation with Adam and Eve? Why didn't he just pronounce guilt and judgment from afar?
- Read Matthew 9:35-38.
  - Why was Jesus moved with compassion? What does this have to do with sheep and shepherds?
  - What is the specific situation Jesus is alluding in verse 37?
  - What is the remedy to the problem that Jesus asserts in the next verse? What does this mean for us today?
- Read 2 Peter 3:9 and Philippians 2:5-8.
  - What is the desire of the Lord for those who are without him?
  - According to Philippians 2, what exactly did Jesus do to pursue those who are without him?

### Respond

- The story of Zacchaeus and the story of Adam and Eve in the garden say something about the heart of God. What do you think God cares about most in this world? How should that influence how you pray? Worship? Serve?
- How did the Lord pursue you? How can you use that story to encourage unbelievers to respond to him? How does that story motivate you to share the gospel, go on missions, and serve the Lord through the church?

### Bonus for Thinkers

- Of all the people in the crowd with Zacchaeus, why do you think Jesus stopped and addressed him? Does this say more about Zacchaeus or more about Jesus?

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## First Baptist Nacogdoches Bible Reading Plan

Day	Scripture
Monday (12/2)	Luke 19:1-10, Genesis 3:8-11
Tuesday (12/3)	1 Corinthians 3:1-23
Wednesday (12/4)	1 Corinthians 4:1-21
Thursday (12/5)	1 Corinthians 5:1-12
Friday (12/6)	1 Corinthians 6:1-20

# Daily Devotion Questions

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## Monday (12/2) — Luke 19:1-10, Genesis 3:8-11

- Review the “Respond” questions on the reverse side of this devotion guide.

## Tuesday (12/3) — 1 Corinthians 3:1-23

- In 3:3 and 3:4, Paul says the people in the church were “of the flesh.” What does that mean? What are some ways it could be said of you that you are “of the flesh?”
- We learn in 3:8 that the reward God has for us varies depending on the faithfulness of our labor for the Kingdom. Does that encourage you or discourage you? How can you be more faithful to labor for the Lord this week?
- Re-read 3:14-15. What criteria do you think the Lord will use to evaluate the labor and service you do for the Kingdom of God?
- In what way is the church the temple of God? Why is the Lord so sensitive about people hurting the temple of God in 3:17?

## Wednesday (12/4) — 1 Corinthians 4:1-21

- In 4:3-5 Paul recognizes that what God thinks about us and what we and others think about us, may be very different things. What areas of your life do others think well of you, but you know that the Lord has a different view?
- Paul asks a brilliant question in the middle of 4:7: “What do you have that you did not receive?” What he is saying is that any blessing, any benefit, any advantage, any opportunity we have comes from the hand of God. The people in the church of Corinth were puffed up with pride about some of their blessings and advantages instead of being humble and thankful before the Lord. What advantages in your life are you failing to give thanks for?
- Because of Paul’s faithfulness to the Lord, he had the boldness to tell the Corinthians to just act and live like him in 4:16-17. Would you be nervous about standing in front of your church and advising people to just live like you? What areas of your life would you be most concerned about? Write those down, and talk to the Lord about each of them.
- What are some of the blessings, advantages, benefits and opportunities we have as a family? Are we doing a good job of giving credit and thanksgiving to the Lord for those things?

## Thursday (12/5) — 1 Corinthians 5:1-12

- Paul tells the church in 5:2 that they should be broken hearted over the sin of the immoral man instead of just arrogantly excusing it. What is your attitude when you hear about immorality? Does it break your heart? Is it funny? Is it no big deal? What kind of attitude should we have?
- What is the leaven we read about in 5:6? Why is it so dangerous? What should we do about it (5:7)?
- What does 5:8 teach us about how we should prepare for worshipping the Lord?
- How should our attitude be different toward sexually immoral Christians and sexually immoral people outside the church?

## Friday (12/6) — 1 Corinthians 6:1-20

- Some people suggest the phrase “And such were some of you,” in 6:11 is one of the most encouraging and inspiring phrases in the Bible. Why would people say that? What does that phrase mean to you?
- Some in the Corinthians church tried to excuse sexual immorality by saying, “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food.” What did they mean by that? What does Paul say should be our satisfaction in the end of 6:13?
- 6:18 gives a clear command and then the reason for the command. Write down three ways you can “flee” in your life. Then write down the reason/warning we read in the second half of 6:18 using your own words.
- Why should the fact that you have been “bought with a price” (6:20) influence your behavior and choices?