

“Gospel Breakthrough”
Luke 19:1-10
Tommy Lee

Context: Luke 18

- The Pharisee and tax collector
- The little children
- The rich ruler
- The blind beggar

Luke 19:1-10 (ESV)

¹ He entered Jericho and was passing through. ² And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³ And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. ⁴ So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way. ⁵ And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.” ⁶ So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. ⁷ And when they saw it, they all grumbled, “He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.” ⁸ And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.” ⁹ And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

I. See the perspective of:

- The crowd, gathering around Jesus to see what he could offer:
 - ⁷ And when they saw it, they all grumbled, “He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.”
- Jesus, who seeks out the one who is despised in the city:
 - ⁵ And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.”
- Zacchaeus, the rich tax collector with a bad reputation and a great need:
 - ³ And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. ⁴ So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way.

II. Four Gospel Breakthroughs

- You have to be able to see the authenticity of Jesus.
 - We must know who Jesus is and the truth he brings in order to follow him as his disciple.
- You have to be willing to climb up the tree.
 - In the midst of faithfully following Jesus, we will look ridiculous going against the expectations of the world in regards to career, goals, family, relationships, etc.
- You have to be able to look past the crowd.
 - Despite criticisms and judgments we face, along with discouragements from the examples of others who claim to know and follow Jesus Christ, we must strive to look to Jesus.
- You have to let Jesus into your house.
 - Invite and allow Jesus into our sinful, messy lives in order to experience the gospel.