

The Short Man Who Couldn't See Jesus! (Easy)

1. Have you ever been hurt by someone? They may have hurt you by what they said or by the things they did to you. Maybe you have not been able to forget what they have done to hurt you. This story is about help for people who are hurting and need help.

2. Zacchaeus lived nearly 2000 years ago, but his story is still being told around the world. He was always hurting people. He was a Jew, who lived in a small Jewish town. His job was to make his Jewish neighbors pay tax money to the Roman government. He was always cheating people by making them pay more taxes than they needed to pay. He gave part of the money to the government and part of it, he put into his own pocket. In this way, he became very rich. But he did not have any friends nor any peace in his heart.

3. One day a large group of people came together in his town. Some of them had traveled from other towns. They were following a man named, Jesus. They wanted to listen to His teachings and to see what miracle He would do next.



4. Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus that day too, but he had two problems. There were so many people that he could not get near to where Jesus was and he was a very short man. It seemed impossible for him to be able to see Jesus.

5. So he decided to climb up in a tree, beside the road. Jesus would come walking into the town along that road. Zacchaeus knew he would see Jesus when He walked by. But when the crowd came to the tree where he was sitting, Jesus stopped. He looked up into the tree, and called out, "Zacchaeus, hurry down. I am going to *your* house today!"



6. Zacchaeus was so surprised! "How did Jesus know my name?" he asked himself. He quickly climbed down out of the tree, and took Jesus with him to his house.

7. The people who knew Zacchaeus saw what had happened and began talking to each other. "Jesus is going to *that sinner's* house," they said. They were not happy because they hated Zacchaeus and were surprised that Jesus wanted to go to *his* house.

8. As Jesus and Zacchaeus talked, Zacchaeus told Jesus that he would give half of the things he owned to the poor. He added, "I will pay back the money I have taken from my neighbors, for I have cheated them by taking too much tax money." When Jesus heard that, He said to him, "A change of heart has taken place in this house today." Everyone in that small town saw that Zacchaeus had changed and had stopped cheating and hurting people.

Questions: **The Short Man Who Couldn't See Jesus** - (Easy)



1. Describe Zacchaeus. Tell about him in the following ways:
 - a. His size _____
 - b. His job _____
 - c. His money _____
 - d. His life with other people _____

2. At the beginning of our story, what did he want to do? _____

3. What two things made it difficult for him to do what he wanted to do?
_____ and _____

4. What did he do in to be able to see Jesus? _____

5. What happened when Jesus came to where Zacchaeus was sitting? _____

6. What can we learn about Jesus when we see what he did when He saw Zacchaeus?

7. When the people saw what Jesus did and heard what he said to Zacchaeus, how did they feel? _____
What did they say to each other? _____

8. What happened to Zacchaeus that day that Jesus came to his house?

What was the result? _____

Something to Think About and English Conversation Practice:

- A. Zacchaeus was not very well liked. In fact, his neighbors did not like him at all. Maybe he did not have any friends. Talk about what it is like when someone doesn't like you.
- B. Why do you think Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus?
- C. What do you think caused Zacchaeus to pay back the money he had taken from people?



The Short Man Who Couldn't See Jesus! Guidelines for Teacher's

(Easy)

Lesson Aims: To share how a man's heart was changed when he met Jesus
To create hunger to know more about Jesus
To teach English conversation in an interesting manner

Lesson Outline:

1. Read through the story together: (30 minutes)
2. Answer the comprehension questions together: (30 minutes)
3. Something to Think About and English Conversation Practice:
(30 minutes - depending on your group)
 - A. Zacchaeus was not very well liked. In fact, his neighbors did not like him at all. Maybe he did not have any friends. Talk about what it is like when someone doesn't like you.
 - B. Why do you think Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus?
 - C. What do you think caused Zacchaeus to pay back the money he had taken from people?

