

LOVING THOSE YOU WRONGED

READ Luke 19:1-10

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 because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see Him, since Jesus was coming that way.

⁵ When Jesus reached the spot, 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 the lost."

REFLECT: Why do you think Zacchaeus wanted to repay everyone?

Zacchaeus was a man who was looking after only himself. He cheated his neighbors and took their money so he could have a better life. But that all changed on the day he climbed that tree to see someone he had heard about.

Why the change? Zacchaeus met Jesus!

It changed everything and his life was flipped upside down. When Jesus came into his life, Zac realized he had not been loving his neighbors at all. He needed to make things right so he decided to pay those he cheated four times more than he took from them. He also declared he would give half he had to the poor. Now that is loving your neighbor.

RESPOND: What about you? Are you only concerned about yourself or do you also look for ways to help those around you? Have you done wrong to someone and need to make it right?

Think of someone that you have wronged. How can you show love to them by doing what is right?

Thank God for _____

Pray for _____