

Lesson #3-27

Zacchaeus

Luke 18:31–19:10

**Key Verses:**

“For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

Luke 19:10

The Point:

Jesus brings salvation to outsiders who receive him with faith and joy.

Lenten Theme (February 17—April 2)

Journey to the Cross

Tax Collectors

Learn about tax collectors like Zacchaeus.

You will need:

† Pennies

Instructions:

1. Hand each person two pennies.
2. **One of the main characters in today's story is Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus was a tax collector who lived in Jericho. What do you think his job was as a tax collector?** [*He collected taxes.*]
3. **Let's pretend that I am Zacchaeus, and my job is to collect taxes from you. Please pay me two pennies each.**
4. Take the two pennies from each person. Separate them into two piles of pennies.
5. **Now, my job is to take this money to the government. But what if the government only asks for one penny from everyone for tax? What do you think Zacchaeus would do with the extra money?** [*Keep it.*]
6. Push aside one of the piles of pennies. **This pile of pennies is the money that I would turn in to the government. And the rest of it? Well, many tax collectors like Zacchaeus would just keep it for themselves, a lot more than they needed to live on. How would you feel if you found out that the tax collector was taking a lot more money than they needed to?** [*Sad, upset, angry, cheated, etc.*]
7. **Many people did not like tax collectors like Zacchaeus because they were sometimes greedy and took away money from people. Because of this, tax collectors were seen as outsiders. They were not welcomed by people. However, something special happens to Zacchaeus.**