

11

Zacchaeus, the Man With a Longing Heart

Chapter

Luke 19:1–10, Psalm 63:1–4

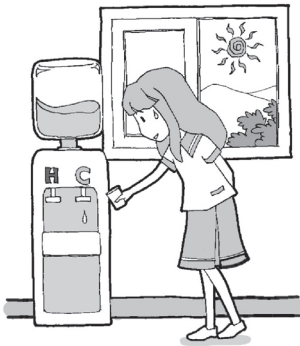
Today's Lesson:



1. To understand that those who have a desperately desiring heart will obtain the Lord's grace.

2. To understand that the Lord does not look at my appearance or how others judge me, but my heart.

Open Your Heart



1. Both of these people want water. However, their desire for the water is different. Write down how it is different.

Picture 1)

Picture 2)

2. What do I want from the Lord? How earnestly do I want it?



Understanding Today's Lesson

God is Almighty and desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. However, why can't all people receive salvation? What kind of person does the Lord save? The story of Zacchaeus in the Book of Luke gives us the answer.

Zacchaeus was living in the city of Jericho, a city of sin. He was a chief tax collector, which represented sinners at that time, and was a rich man whom Jesus said was difficult to enter into the kingdom of heaven. However, he met Jesus, was changed, and received salvation. This was because of Zacchaeus' longing heart. Hearing that Jesus was to come to the city of Jericho, Zacchaeus earnestly desired to see Jesus. However, because of his short stature, Zacchaeus could not see Jesus over the large crowd that had gathered. Nevertheless, he did not give in to his complications and to the external factors. Because he longed to see Jesus, he ran ahead of Jesus and climbed up a large sycamore tree that was by that pathway. Whether it was his prestige or reputation as a chief tax collector, the crowd surrounding Jesus, or his physical disadvantage of being short, nothing was an obstacle to Zacchaeus, who longed to see Jesus.

Jesus personally called Zacchaeus' name, visited his house, and ate with him. Through his love for the Lord, Zacchaeus was changed, and Jesus proclaimed Zacchaeus as a descendant of Abraham. The Lord answered Zacchaeus' longing heart with salvation.

Notes:



Memorizing Bible Verses

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find;
knock, and it will be opened to you

(Matthew 7:7)



Meditate

On These Verses

1. After you have meditated on the following verses, give a title of the verse or write a short summary of the verse. Also, write down things you have felt about the verse, or other verses that it has reminded you of.

(Luke 5:18–20)

(Matthew 15:21–28)

(Proverbs 8:17, 34–35)

2. Read Psalm 42:1–2 and Psalm 63:1–2, think about what kind of state the writer is in, and then write down your thoughts.



Changing

Directions

1. Let's fill in the blanks by remembering the time when I was saved and comparing it to when Zacchaeus met Jesus.

Events	Zacchaeus	Me
In order to meet Jesus	Ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree	
When Jesus called	Made haste and came down	
When Jesus said He was going to stay at his house	Received Him joyfully	
While having fellowship with Jesus	Determined to give half of his goods to the poor and to restore fourfold if he takes anything from anyone by false accusation	

2. After being saved, was there a time when I prayed as earnestly as I did when I received salvation? What did I earnestly pray for? Was my prayer answered?



Applying

The Word to My Life

For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.
(James 2:26)

1. Please write down how you will apply what you learned today throughout this week.

1.)

2.)

3.)

2. Look back and reflect on how successful you were at applying last week's lesson.



Praying

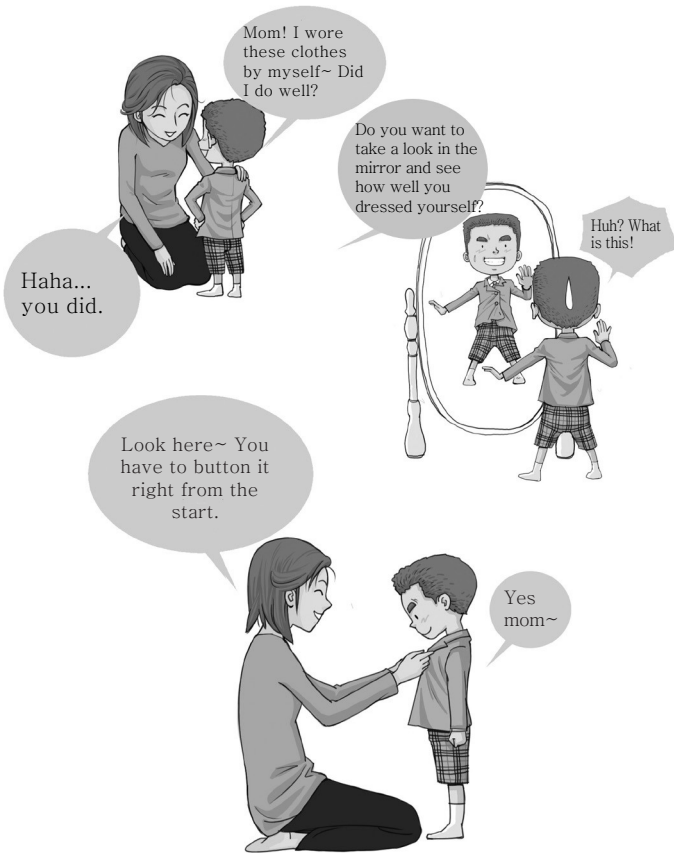
To Live According to the Word

Lord! I desire to be a person who seeks You with all my heart. Please help me so that this week will become a week where I earnestly seek You.



Our Story

The First Button of Life



No matter how good the clothes are, if you fasten the first button wrong, it changes the entire appearance of the clothing. So is life. Life's first button is God. Not knowing God in life is the same as fastening the first button incorrectly. Regardless of age, when a person meets God the Creator, the first button in life is fastened correctly.

We will know if we fastened the first button in our life correctly or not when we stand in front of God.

A Girl's Longing

In a rural village near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, there is a church building so large that it seems out of place. This church building was built in memory of a girl named Susan. Susan was a girl who longed for a place of worship to be built, as her village did not have one. Because she always had to go through the trouble of going out to a far city to listen to Sunday sermon, she always prayed like this.

"Lord, please give me a church building in my village so that my friends can listen to Your Word together and the villagers can praise You freely and openly."

This was Susan's dream and her longing desire. Susan gave this prayer to the Lord every day and firmly believed that the Lord would hear her prayer. After a while, Susan got sick from an unknown disease, suffered from it, and eventually died. The villagers, who were preparing for the girl's funeral, found beneath her sickbed a letter that contained her earnest prayer and aspirations, along with her last offering of five dollars. Susan's story touched the hearts of the villagers and Christians across the United States, and people started trying to outpace one another in giving offering

As a result, to commemorate Susan and to preach the Gospel, a large, beautiful church building was built in the village. This is the story of a girl whose prayer and five dollar bill brought miracle-like events to her village.

God is saying, "Ask!" to us who are small and incompetent. If you persistently ask of the Lord, the Lord will hear that earnest request and fulfill great and wonderful things. Let us long and pray for the Lord to fulfill His will through me.





Wednesday

Sermon

Date.

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Title:

Speaker:

Main Passage:



Sunday

Sermon

Date.

|

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Title:

Speaker:

Main Passage :