

Jesus Has Left The Building

- Introduction:
1. If we desire to be followers of Jesus, we must leave the building.
 2. God has always called people to a work to which he “sends” them.
 3. That’s not a throw off on what takes place here today, but it does emphasize the importance of “leaving the huddle.”
 - a. Ills. of huddling. No one has ever won a game by huddling.
 4. But we often resist (Exodus 3:8; Numbers 16:13).
 5. Ills. Tell a child to clean room. He memorizes the command, has friends over to discuss what the room would look like, even learns the Greek word for Clean - Katharos.
 6. Let’s discuss ways to get out of the building, by examining how the first century disciples did it.

I. They Heard the OUTcry

- A. They were compassionate.
- B. (Acts 4:32-37).
- C. (Acts 6:1-4).
- D. (Acts 11:29-30).

II. Zacchaeus: A Context for Compassion

- A. Zacchaeus was a tax collector.
- B. Because of his job, he had to be a social outcast.
- C. Not only did Zacchaeus have a job that people thought was contemptuous, but he also would have been an easy target for verbal abuse because of his short stature.
- D. In spite of his social and physical limitations, Jesus reached out to him.
- E. Lessons We Can Learn From A Zacchaeus
 1. Zacchaeus teaches us to look past the superficial.
 - a. Do we judge people by the way they dress, or look?
(James 2:1-9).
 - b. (James 2:1-9).
 2. Zacchaeus teaches us compassion.
 - a. No less than 12 times does the text tell us that Jesus was “moved with compassion.”
 - b. How are we affected by people who need our compassion?
 - c. How do we treat “fifth wheels,” “social misfits,” “loners,” “the mentally ill,” and the “physically handicapped?”
 - d. Do you run from these people?
 3. Zacchaeus reminds us of the value of a soul.
 - a. (Matthew 16:26; Luke 15:4,7; Mark 2:17).
 4. Zacchaeus give us an opportunity to be like Jesus.
 - a. (Romans 8:29; Matthew 10:25; Galatians 2:20).
 - b. “Oh To Be Like Thee.”

- Conclusion:
1. We need a Zacchaeus in our life.
 2. Our relationships should not just be one-sided. Sometimes, instead of “getting,” we need to “give.”
 3. Who’s your Zaccheus? You need one to become more like Jesus.