

People You Need in Your Life

Who's Your Zacchaeus

(Luke 19:1-10)

- Introduction:
1. For the past several weeks, we have been examining people we need in our lives.
 2. (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12) We do need people.
 3. This morning's lesson examines a person we need in our life, but maybe don't want - We need a Zacchaeus.

I. Who Was Zacchaeus

- A. Zacchaeus was a tax collector (Matthew 5:47; 18:15-18).
- 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.

II. Lessons We Can Learn From A Zacchaeus

- A. Zacchaeus teaches us to look past the superficial.
 1. Do we judge people by the way they dress, or by the way they look?
 2. (James 2:1-9).
- B. Zacchaeus teaches us compassion.
 1. No less than 12 times does the text tell us that Jesus was "moved with compassion."
 2. How are we affected by people who need our compassion?
 3. How do we treat "fifth wheels," "social misfits," "loners," "the mentally ill," and the "physically handicapped?"
 4. Do you run from these people?
- C. Zacchaeus reminds us of the value of a soul.
 1. (Matthew 16:26)
 2. (Luke 15:4,7).
 3. (Mark 2:17).
- E. Zacchaeus give us an opportunity to be like Jesus.
 1. (Romans 8:29).
 2. (Matthew 10:25).
 3. (Galatians 2:20).
 4. "Oh To Be Like Thee."

- Conclusion:
1. You need a Zacchaeus in your 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.