



ZACCHAEUS
07.02.21

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NOTE TO PARENTS from Ps Luke Aiasecca

Thank you for the privilege of ministering to your family through Kidmania Online. Today's Kidmania Online episode was **ZACCHAEUS**.

Using this parent info sheet at home to support your Kidmania experience WITH your child will help them to get the most out of the episode. You might choose to do it in one sitting, or you might need a few sessions over the week to get through it; you can pace yourself through it as you choose. Even if you did not lead your child through the whole discussion; reading through it yourself will PREPARE YOU well to: use what you feel would be most valuable for you and your family; help you facilitate discussion; and answer some of the big questions that kids ask. 😊

The *Main Ideas* section has been designed especially for you, to enter into meaningful *Discussion* with your child; to guide you in what you can *Say* and *Ask*, to actively build faith and wisdom into them. Points and questions build on one another, so there is great value in leading your child through it. We have added a next level which is highlighted - skip it if you feel it is too much for your child's developmental level. The lesson will still progress well if you skip the **highlighted areas**. To help your child really share what's in their heart and mind, when it comes to *Ask* points, take care to not rush them... give them time to really think and respond. Really show them you are listening and understanding. We've also added *Life Application* points, a *Sum Up* point, and sample *Prayer*.

We are here to support you! If you have any questions you would like to discuss please contact your location Kidmania co-ordinator or email me at luke.aiasecca@enjoy.church God bless you!



Family Ice Breaker – On point challenge

This is a fun way to introduce what you will be talking about as a family.

Today we watched as Elisha balanced a racquet so that a marble rolled into a particular square we had marked out with red text. It required balance and concentration to maneuver it into position. She had 60 seconds to get it done.

You might like to do this at home. You could do as we did and use a flat object with a spot marked out and a small ball or marble.

Whatever you do, have fun!



1. THIS WEEK - read through SCRIPTURE together.

The true story of Zacchaeus is found in Luke 19:1-10

2. Scripture Memory Verses - to read & memorise at meal times

[use any version you like; we have used a combination of versions/translations/paraphrases to help your child best understand the meaning of the passages and apply it to their lives NOW]

James 4:8

Come near to God, and He will come near to you.

Luke 5:31-32

And Jesus replied to them, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but only those who are sick. I did not come to call the self-proclaimed righteous who see no need to repent, but sinners to repentance - to change their old way of thinking, to turn from sin, and to seek God and His righteousness."

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!



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The Main Ideas for Family Discussion

Discussion introduction:

Ask: Have you ever been to a carnival or some kind of show where there were MANY, MANY people and you couldn't really see what was happening, because you're a kid and almost everyone is taller than you?

If YES, say: Tell me about it.

Ask: Would it have been good if there was something you could climb up on (safely) to get a better view?

Ask: Can you think of someone in the Bible who did something like this?

If YES, say: Tell me about it.

Say: Yes, I'm thinking of Zacchaeus.

Ask: Zacchaeus was not very well liked...can you tell me why that is?

Say: Yes, Zacchaeus was a tax collector. He collected tax money from his own people (the Israelites/Jews) on behalf of (for) the Roman Caesar (ruler). His own people did not like him because he was doing the work of a foreign ruler, and he did more than that.

Ask: What did he do?

Say: Yes, Zacchaeus collected more than he needed to and kept the extra for himself.

Ask: Is that honest? [No!]

Ask: Is that all there is to the story of Zacchaeus? Was he just a short man who got rich by working for the enemy and ripping his own people off? [No!]

Ask: What else do we know about Zacchaeus from the true Bible story in Luke 19?

Say: Something special happened to Zacchaeus.

Ask: What was it?

Say: Zacchaeus had heard of Jesus and believed in Him, and He wanted to see Jesus and hear some more teaching. Because he was so short he could not see so he climbed a Sycamore Fig tree. Jesus knew that Zacchaeus wanted to be close to Him, and that he was not very well liked, and that Jesus knew he had already changed and was not ripping people off anymore. Jesus looked up and told him to come down so that Jesus could go home to his house with him and have dinner.

Ask: What would you think if Jesus told you he was coming home with you to have dinner with you?

Ask: Do you think other people would notice?

Ask: Do you think they would be happy for you or jealous of you?

Ask: Do you think they would wonder why Jesus chose you instead of them?

Going deeper – unpacking the WORD!

Say: There are many things we can learn from the story of Zacchaeus. Can you remember the 3 things Ps Luke spoke about today

1. God really notices when we put in the effort to see Him more clearly.
2. Jesus came for all people, especially those who are hurting and lost.
3. When God does a work in your heart, it will be obvious to others because it will change how you live.

Say: 1. God really notices when we put the effort in to see Him more clearly.

Say: Zacchaeus had a problem. He was too short to be able to see Jesus clearly.

Ask: Did he give up and go home? [No!]

Ask: What did he do?





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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

Say: Zacchaeus made the effort to position himself better, so be able to see Jesus more clearly. And when He did Jesus paid attention to him. We might think that this would not happen for us, and that Zacchaeus was treated in a special way...but that would not be true.

Scripture: James 4:8

Say: In James 4:8 it says: **Come near to God, and He will come near to you.**

Ask: Is this promise in this Scripture for you too? [Yes!]

Life Application Point

Ask: How can you position yourself to see Jesus more clearly, and so He can spend time with You and speak to your mind and heart?

Say: Yes, we can position ourselves to have a friendship with Jesus, and be close to Him by: reading our Bible, listening to messages about Him, listening to songs about Him (and joining in sometimes), and praying (talking to Him).

Ask: Do we need to make an appointment to speak with Jesus, or do we need to wait in a queue to speak to Jesus? [No!]

Say: We can talk with Him any time and all the time...He is ALWAYS listening to us and wanting to spend time with us.

Ask: If we find it hard to understand something in the Bible, should we give up? [No!]

Ask: What can we do?

Say: We can ask God to help us to understand. We can ask someone to help us to understand. And we choose to NOT give up!

Ask: What if we have done something not quite right and we feel really bad, or our feelings have been hurt and we are not feeling like talking to Jesus?

Say: We should still choose to NOT give up coming close to Jesus. Jesus wants to forgive us and help us.

Say: 2. Jesus came for ALL people, especially those who are hurting and lost

Say: When Jesus met Zacchaeus, no one in his community really liked him...they didn't want to talk with him or spend time with him.

Ask: Did Jesus like Zacchaeus, and did Jesus love him and want to spend time with him?

Say: Jesus loves everyone and wants to spend time with everyone...especially the people who don't think they deserve His love and care.

Ask: Do you have some reasons to think that people would not want to spend time with you?

Ask: Do you sometimes think Jesus would not want to spend time with you?

Say: The worse you feel, the more you need to talk with Jesus, and the more He wants to spend time with you!

Scripture: Luke 5:31-32

Say: In Luke 5:31-32 it says: **And Jesus replied to them, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but only those who are sick. I did not come to call the self-proclaimed righteous who see no need to repent, but sinners to repentance - to change their old way of thinking, to turn from sin, and to seek God and His righteousness."**

Say: Jesus is like a doctor for your soul and spirit. Just like a doctor helps people who are sick and injured, Jesus reaches out with His great love to those who are hurting and lost, to make sure they know they belong, and they are loved. Jesus wants to heal our broken hearts.





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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

Life Application Point

Ask: Is there something hurting your heart?

Pray together about that.

Say: 3. When God does a work in your heart, it will be obvious to others because it will change how you live

Say: Zacchaeus had heard about Jesus' teaching, and it made him want to change the way he was living.

Ask: When you read the Bible or hear a message preached, does it ever make you want to make changes to your life (in how you think and in what you do)?

Ask: Can you give me an example of that?

Ask: The more we get to know Jesus, and love Him, the more we begin to think like Him – we love the things He loves, we hate the things He hates, and we want the things He wants. Jesus does not want to leave us the way we are; He wants to help us to be the best we can be.

Ask: Would you like for Jesus to help you to be the best YOU that you can be?

Say: When we give our life to Him we get a fresh start. Then, as we pay attention to His teaching, and do as He teaches, we will head in the right direction. Over our lifetime Jesus will help us to change. The change starts straight away, as soon as you believe in Jesus and begin to follow Him. We will have different thoughts, attitudes and behaviors.

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Say: In 2 Corinthians 5:17 it says: **Therefore, anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!**

Ask: Will we be perfect?

Say: We won't be perfect straight away, but we will begin to change and if it is real change other people will begin to notice.

Ask: Have you ever changed the way you did something, and someone noticed?

Ask: Was the change good? Did you feel good about it? Can you tell me about it?

Say: Some of the change will be easy and some will need us to put in some effort as we choose to obey Jesus. The Holy Spirit will help us to live more like Jesus, so if it gets hard, don't give up, keep going!

Ask: What if we put in a lot of effort and people don't notice straight away?

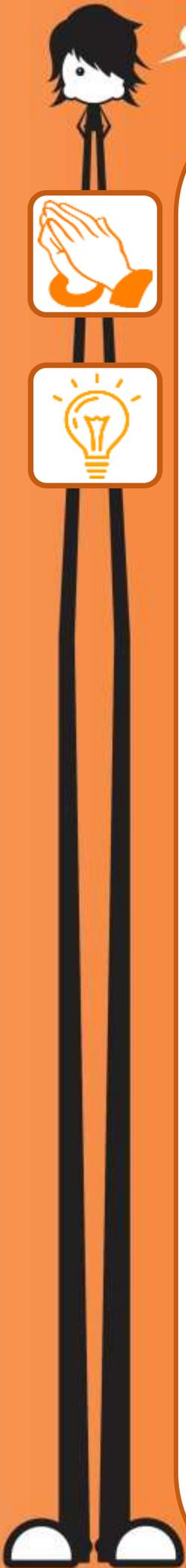
Say: Keep going! Zacchaeus had changed his bad ways, and was now doing what was right. And, he had even said sorry to the people he took too much money from, and gave them back the money he owed them - plus extra! But, not everyone had heard about Zacchaeus being good now, and they were not ready to trust him again. When Jesus gave Zacchaeus the great honor of hosting Him in his home the people really paid attention to him. They heard him sharing with Jesus about how he had changed. Jesus helped him to be seen as he now was, a changed man – a NEW creation.

Ask: Will you trust Jesus to help you to change, and to help other people to see how you have changed?

Say: I want everyone to see that I am a new creation.

Ask: Do you?





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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

Let's Pray!

Dear Heavenly Father...

Thank You that You love us so much that You sent Your Son Jesus.

Thank You that He came to save us.

Thank you that He taught us how to live.

Help us to change to be more like Him.

Help us to see Him more clearly, and spend time with Him.

In Jesus' Name. Amen!

A PICTURE paints a thousand words!

[You might like to ask your child to use this space to draw a picture that tells you what they have learned today]