

Three Who Met Jesus

**Studies in Preparation for
Easter**

**An interactive Bible study for
individuals, families,
and LIFE Groups**

~March 18-24, 2007~

“Mission Improbable”

Luke 19:1-10



Life Groups

In this series of Bible studies, we are focusing on people who encountered Jesus as He neared the final week of His life on earth (known as Passion Week). Each week this discussion guide will help you reflect upon the Sunday sermon and apply its content to your life. Whether you work through these lessons on your own, with a friend, or in your family or LIFE Group, we believe they will help you have your own personal encounter with Jesus. If you ever miss a sermon, you can always listen to it online at www.upc-orlando.com.

LISTEN

Record your insights and observations from this week's sermon:

SHARE

- a) This week, we are looking at Jesus' encounter with a tax collector named Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10). Zacchaeus received Jesus into his home with great gladness. If you could welcome anyone, living or dead, into your home (besides Jesus!) who would it be?

- b) Why that person?

REFLECT

- a) How do "the crowd" (vs. 3) and "the people" (vs. 7) in this passage treat Zacchaeus? How do you think he was treated on a daily basis by those around him?

- b) How does Jesus treat Zacchaeus (vss. 5-10)? What's surprising about Jesus' response to him?

- c) Tax collectors were viewed with contempt during Jesus' day. Who would you say are the "tax collectors" around us today? What should our attitude be toward them?

- d) Jesus calls Zacchaeus "a son of Abraham" (vs. 9). Read Galatians 3:6-9. How does Zacchaeus demonstrate that he is a son of Abraham?

e) Jesus calls Himself “the Son of Man” (vs. 10). Read Daniel 7:13-14. What does this Old Testament passage reveal about Jesus?

APPLY

a) Nobody is beyond God’s reach, even “tax collectors.” The gospel has the power to transform anyone. Who is someone (or a group of people) that you see as beyond the reach of God?

b) Look again at the person or group you wrote above. What bold steps might you take to demonstrate the love of Christ to them or help them come to faith?

c) Jesus states (vs. 10) that He has come “to seek and to save what was lost.” When someone has been a Christian for a while, it is easy to forget that he or she is lost apart from God’s grace. Read Luke 18:9-14. How can you continue to be humble and see your need for Jesus as you grow in your faith?

d) How does the picture of Jesus, the Son of Man, in Daniel 7:13-14 strengthen your hope in the gospel message?
