

Kingdom Constants

Luke 19:1-27

1 Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. 2 A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. 3 He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. 4 So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

5 When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." 6 So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

7 All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

8 But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.”

9 Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Confronting Lies

7 All the people saw this and began to mutter,
“He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”

A big part of love is confronting lies.

Discussion

What are some lies you have believed
or still sometimes lives as if you
believe about God?
About yourself?

Confronting Lies

Jesus gets to the heart of the issue:

9 "This man, too, is a son of Abraham.
For the Son of Man came to seek
and to save what was lost."

Lies about the means for salvation

What's Your Deal?

- They didn't want to admit that this person was a fellow son
- They didn't want to admit that sons of Abraham could be lost

So either...

Zaccheus was saved too

or

Being a son of Abraham alone didn't save you

Risk

8 But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.”

- Motivated by love, not guilt
- Confessed and repented
- New Identity (Psalms 26:1)

Christianity 101

You were once a free spirit, pursuing your desires, happy and content and fulfilled.

But Christ, in his deep insecurity and unwillingness to let you be happy without him, trapped you, weighed you down with a heavy and unreasonable burden of rules, rituals and standards.

Christianity 101

He did this so that you might not enjoy anything he created, but mindlessly, passionlessly recite words, study a lifeless document thousands of years old, and constantly live in fear and guilt that you're not doing enough.

Now give him your money.

Discussion

What are some of the rules of Christianity?

Parable of King's Ten Servants

14 "His subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say 'We don't want this man to be our king.'"

God is king or Sin is king

The servants wanted something that didn't and doesn't exist.

Reflection

What was the conversation between Matthew and Zacchaeus like?