

Luke

19:1-9



Zacchaeus

Not many folks in the Bible get their very own children's song. Zacchaeus is one of them. He cheated. He climbed. He ate. He confessed. He repaid. And for that, he got himself a song. (And salvation.)

- Kick off class and get in the exploring mood. Listen to ***Catch That Micro-Star!*** in ***Niki Knack's Gritty Audio Journal of Adventuring***.

Exploring Supplies

- Bibles
- *Discovery Guides*
- *Eureka! DVD or CD*
- DVD or CD player
- Pens and markers

- Check out the back page for some expedition extras.

Leader's Deep Dive
& other digital
resources available at
FoundryLeader.com
Password: Parable



1 Remember Verse

- Play the verse video for **Philippians 2:6-7**.
- Ask for volunteers to try and say the verse from memory.
 - **“In his very nature he was God. Jesus was equal with God. But Jesus didn’t take advantage of that fact. Instead, he made himself nothing. He did this by taking on the nature of a servant. He was made just like human beings.” Philippians 2:6-7 (NIRV)**
- Check out a variety of **Remember Verse** games and activities on FoundryLeader.com.

2 What's That Word?

- Decode the words in the **Discovery Guide (DG)** individually or as a class.
- Decoded words are **sinner**, **Son of Man**, and **nature**.
- Invite a kid or adult to read the definition for each word.
- Invite kids to ask questions or share anything else they know about these words.

3 Peaks and Pitfalls

- Invite kids to share something not so great (pitfall) and something great (peak) that happened this past week.
- Pray together.

4 Hear It

- Have an adult read the **Eureka! Bible Passage** on page 3.
- Ask if there are any words that need a quick explanation before moving to Step 5.

5 Tell It **So Much Drama** or **Strike-A-Pose**

- As a class, choose one of these two **Tell It** methods to tell the story.
- Instructions for each are on page 4. The **So Much Drama** script is on page 3.
- The **Strike-A-Pose** words are: **Zacchaeus, see, tree, house, pay, said.**

6 Embrace It

- Invite kids to quietly read and reflect on the passage on their own using the **Eureka! Bible Passage (EBP)** or their own Bible.
- After 2-3 minutes, invite a student or leader to read the **EBP** out loud again.

7 What's Happening in the Passage?

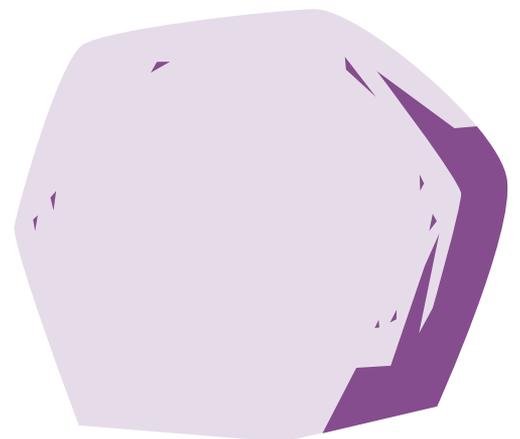
- Explore the passage.
 - **If you had been in the crowd, how would you explain what had happened? What part would you talk about the most?**
 - **What do you find most interesting about Zacchaeus and his choices? What about Jesus? The crowd of people?**
 - **Why do you think Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus so badly? Was he curious? Just going with the crowd? Did he have questions for Jesus?**

8 What's This Say about God?

- Explore what the passage says about God.
 - **What does Jesus do in this story? What does He seem to care about? What does this say about God?**
 - **What do you think it was about Jesus that inspired Zacchaeus to change?**
 - **Why did Jesus want to go to Zacchaeus's home? Why didn't He just tell him what to do and go help the next person?**
 - **What does Philippians 2:6-7 say about God? How does Jesus live this out with Zacchaeus?**

9 Record Your Discovery

- Discuss faith discoveries made today.
- Give kids time to write or draw a faith discovery on their **Discovery Relic** on page 2 of their **DG**. Make your own relic while kids make theirs.
- Invite kids to share their completed relic.
- Close in prayer.





So Much Drama

Script

Cast: Zacchaeus (Zach), Crowd (1-3), Jesus

Zach put his hand out to people in the crowd to collect their taxes. The crowd paid him. He took their money, looked around sneakily, and put some in his pocket. The crowd stomped their feet and got angry about this. They said, “You cheated us.”

Zach put his hand to his ear, and said, “No time to talk. Jesus is coming!” The crowd stood right in front of Zach. See, Zach was really short. He stretched his neck. He leaned left and right and up and down. But, he couldn’t see over the crowd. He glanced up and spotted a sycamore tree. He grinned big. He started climbing. He pulled and grunted and pulled and grunted. He finally made his way up. The crowd all sat down.

Jesus walked down the road. He gave the crowd autographs, fist bumps, and high fives. He stopped next to Zach’s tree. He leaned His head back as far as He could and said, “Zach, come down from that tree. Let’s do lunch.” Zach slapped his face in surprise and hopped out of the tree as fast as lightning.

The crowd got angry faces and puffy cheeks. They put their hands on their hips in disgust and walked away.

Now at Zach’s house, Zach looked down at his feet, embarrassed. He pounded his chest and said, “My bad.” He pointed around his house at all of his things and said, “I’ll give half of this stuff to the poor.” He held up four fingers. He would pay the people back four times what he took from them.

Jesus patted him on the back. Then He and Zach did a fancy hand shake. Then Jesus said, “Today salvation has come to this house.”

Zach said, “Woo hoo! To celebrate, do you wanna go climb some trees?”

Eureka!
Bible
Passage

Luke
19:1-9

- A.** Jesus was traveling through the city of Jericho. One of the chief tax collectors there was named **Zacchaeus**. He was a very rich man. He was also a short man.
- B.** As Jesus was passing through, **Zacchaeus** went with the crowds of people to **see** Him. But since he was so short, **Zacchaeus** couldn’t **see** Jesus over the crowd.
- So, he ran ahead in the direction Jesus was going. He climbed a sycamore **tree**. That way he could **see** Jesus when He came by.
- C.** Jesus came to the **tree** where **Zacchaeus** was. He looked up and **said** to him, “Come down quickly, **Zacchaeus**. I need to stay at your **house** today.” **Zacchaeus** obeyed. He climbed down right away. Then he gladly brought Jesus to his home.
- D.** The crowd of people saw what was going on. They whispered to each other. They **said**, “Look, Jesus is going to stay in the **house** of that ‘sinner.’”
- E.** **Zacchaeus** stood before Jesus. He **said**, “Lord, I will give half of all I have to the poor. I will **pay** back everyone I have cheated. In fact, I will **pay** them back four times as much as I took.”
- F.** Then Jesus **said** to him, “Salvation came to your **house** today. You are part of the family of Abraham. The Son of Man came to find those who are lost and save them.”

Before You Explore

Like trying to catch a shooting micro-star, explorers do things a little differently.

That's why we put this **Before You Explore** section on the very last page. We know you understand.



Expedition Tips



- **Savior, King, and Friend** (SKF) language glorifies a God who loves us as our Savior, King, and Friend. It invites us to live in the middle of that love each day of our lives—and even the days after that! SKF language doesn't just explain salvation; it celebrates salvation. Jesus loves us as our Savior, King, and Friend! Check out the description on the Inside Back Cover of the Leader's Guide and on FoundryLeader.com.
- This **Remember Verse** reminds us that while Jesus was God, He was also one of us. He took on the nature of a human. He could relate to those around Him. He wasn't interested in keeping His distance from folks. He wanted to be right in the middle of it.
- Exploring question #4, **What's This Say about God?**, is a way to see what we can discover about the nature, character, and motivations of God. Of course, many times we do this by studying the actions and words of Jesus in a passage. A faith discovery isn't always something for us to *do*. It can be a discovery about Jesus to help us know Him, worship Him, and build our relationship with Him.

So Much Drama

Act out a lighthearted telling of the story as it is read by an adult narrator.

1. Select an actor for each role on the script.
2. Don't practice or rehearse. It's totally okay for kids to be hearing the script for the first time as you read it for the performance.
3. Actors stay offstage until their character is mentioned. As you read the script, pause when moments of action or dialogue are required.
4. If an actor misses a cue, gently repeat the line until the actor follows the script. Keep it lighthearted.
5. When reading dialogue an actor repeats, say the line with emotion. For example, say whispered lines with a whisper voice, and angry lines with an angry voice.
6. If you need to give direction, keep it in the context of the storytelling method. Stay in character as the narrator.
Don't: "Say that again with more excitement."
Do: "Then he said it again like a cheerleader!"
7. Everyone applaud after the drama!

Strike-A-Pose

Create and perform fun poses to go along with the narrated story.

1. This week, use the **Eureka! Bible Passage** as your **Strike-A-Pose** script. The bolded words are listed in step 5 of the lesson.
2. As a class, discuss and decide on the pose that best represents each word. Choose one pose for each word, and take a vote if the class can't decide.
3. Quickly practice each one.
4. Read the **Eureka! Bible Passage** to the class. When a **Strike-A-Pose** word is read, the class will strike the pose for that word. Remind your class to listen carefully so they don't miss a **Strike-A-Pose** word.
5. One adult will read the passage while the other adult leads the kids in the poses.
6. It's fun to add a sound effect to the pose.
7. For a change of pace, kids can lie on the ground on their backs. When they hear a **Strike-A-Pose** word, they should all jump to their feet, strike the pose, and then quickly and quietly lie back down on the ground.