



WEEK 2

LUKE 19:1-9
Zacchaeus

SPECIAL WORDS

GOD (POINT UP)
LOVES ME (THUMBS UP)
NO MATTER WHAT (WITH PALMS DOWN, SLIDE YOUR HANDS AWAY FROM YOUR BODY BY YOUR HIPS LIKE A REFEREE CALLING "SAFE!")

READ THIS

Jesus can help you do the right thing! Our hope is in Jesus and what He has done for us! Just like Zacchaeus, God loves you, no matter what you have done, and no matter what has happened in your life! Let's Go Deeper!

MEMORIZE THIS

"May the God of hope (*point up*) fill you with all joy (*give a big smile*) and peace (*hug yourself*) in believing, (*point to your mind*) so that by the power of the Holy Spirit (*make strong arms*) you may abound in hope." (*thumbs up*)

Romans 15:13 (ESV)

IN ACTION

God loves you so much! His love for you will never change. This week see how many people you can show love to, no matter what!

CHECK OUT OUR COMPANION VIDEOS ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL:
[youtube.com/blueridgecommunitychurch](https://www.youtube.com/blueridgecommunitychurch)

Materials Needed: Bible or Bible App, Dessert or Special Treat

GO DEEPER

MORNING MOMENTS

Read Luke 19:1-6
What is nice about being tall? (You can reach things. You can see over other people's heads.) What is nice about being small? (You can fit into small spaces.) Are there any bad things about being tall or small? Today we will learn about a short man who wanted to meet Jesus. We will also learn that **God (Point up) loves me (hug yourself), no matter what!** (*act like a referee calling "Safe!"*)

CREATIVE CONNECTION

Make a Rhythm - Have your child sit with you and practice a rhythm by having children slap their thighs twice, clap once, slap thighs twice, clap once. Once the rhythm is comfortable, introduce this chant: Je-sus knew Za-cchae-us, Je-sus knows (child's name)

Get Active - Play a game of hide and seek with your child. Every time you find them, give them a big hug and remind them that **God (Point up) loves me (hug yourself), no matter what!** (*act like a referee calling "Safe!"*)

TABLE TIDBITS

Tonight hide "dessert" or a "special treat" under a small dish and hide it somewhere in the house. Tell your child if they eat a good dinner they will get a special treat afterwards. After dinner, allow them to go find the treat. After they find it, talk about how they felt when they found it. Jesus feels so happy when we follow Him and He wants to be our Forever Friend.

CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "Always remember Jesus is near." As you tuck them into bed sing "Zacchaeus was a wee little man" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bkd-QFD7vMA>). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: Dear God, Thank you for loving me, Help me to learn more about you, Thank you for wanting to be with me, Amen.

GO DEEPER



MORNING MOMENTS

Read Luke 19:5-6
The men were calling Zacchaeus a sinner. What does that mean? Sin is anything we think, say, or do that is wrong. Zacchaeus was taking money from people. Show me how you think that made God feel. Yeah, sad! But we all do things that make God sad sometimes. The good news is Jesus still loves us, we just need to say we are sorry and we have to stop doing those things. Show me how you feel to know Jesus loves you. Yeah, happy! That is why this week our special words are: **God (Point up) loves me (hug yourself), no matter what! (act like a referee calling "Safe!")**



CREATIVE CONNECTION

Did you know that some people say, "an elephant never forgets?" Elephants must know a lot! But Jesus knows even more! Jesus knows everything about us; more than our friends or even our parents. Jesus knows that we're not perfect, and that we have made mistakes and sinned. But even though Jesus knows every wrong thing we've ever done, He still loves us and wants to be our Forever Friend. Let's walk around our house stomping like an elephant. As we do let's say, "Jesus knows me and all I do. Jesus loves me no matter what I do!"



TABLE TIDBITS

Talk about it:

- Who loves you?
- How do you know that person loves you?
- How do you know God loves you? (John 3:16- He gave us His son Jesus and He gave us His Word - the Bible!)



CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "Always remember Jesus is near." As you tuck them into bed sing "Zacchaeus was a wee little man." Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: Dear God, Thank you for loving me, even when I do wrong, You are so kind, Amen.

GO DEEPER



MORNING MOMENTS

Read John 3:16
Why did God send His one and only Son? Because God loves us and wants to be our Forever Friend! God loves us when we are asleep (*pretend to be asleep*) and when we are awake (*pretend to be awake*). God loves us when we are happy (*act out being happy*) and when we are mad (*make a mad face*). God loves us no matter what, and He wants to be our Forever Friend. **God (Point up) loves me (hug yourself), no matter what! (act like a referee calling "Safe!")**



CREATIVE CONNECTION

Hide a stuffed animal somewhere in your house. Bring your child to a different room and say: "Oh no! [insert animal's name] is in danger and needs to be saved! Let's pretend we are a train. I will be the engineer and as we go along I want you to keep your eyes out for [animal's name] so we can save it!" Grab each other's shoulders and "chug-a-chug-a-choo" around your house. Once your child spots the animal, show genuine excitement! Give the animal a big hug, tell it you love it and you're so glad it's safe. Remind your child that God loves us even more than we love our stuffed animals. **God (Point up) loves me (hug yourself), no matter what! (act like a referee calling "Safe!")**



TABLE TIDBITS

Talk about it:

- What would you be sad to lose?
- How would you feel once it was found and safe?



CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "Always remember Jesus is near." As you tuck them into bed sing "Zacchaeus was a wee little man." Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: Dear God, Thank you for sending Jesus, help me to learn more about Him being my Savior, Amen.

Materials Needed:
Bible or Bible App, Paper or Cardboard, Markers or Chalk

GO DEEPER



MORNING MOMENTS

Read John 3:16, Psalm 103:8
Jesus loves you! He created you! His love for you is so big! Let's try something. Pretend this cup is you. Now, we are going to hold you over the sink. This water faucet is God and the water is His love. (*Turn on the water and let it overflow the cup.*) Oh no! What's happening? Can you hold all of God's love? No way! God's love for us is more than we can hold! He wants to fill us with His love. **God (Point up) loves me (hug yourself), no matter what!** (*act like a referee calling "Safe!"*)



CREATIVE CONNECTION

Use a large piece of paper, cardboard, or other material you can draw on. Create a giant heart. Fill your heart with words and pictures that describe who God is and how it makes you feel that He loves you! (Ex. God is kind. God is good. God loves me. God created the world and he created me.) If the weather is nice, and if you have chalk, you could do this activity outside on the driveway or sidewalk!



TABLE TIDBITS

Tonight at dinner, or sitting in a circle on the floor, pass a beanbag or a ball around to each person. Every time someone passes the object, say to the person receiving the ball: "I love you because _____, and Jesus loves you too!"



CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "Always remember Jesus is near." As you tuck them into bed sing "Zacchaeus was a wee little man." Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: Dear God, Your love is so deep, help me to love others too, thank You for Your love, Amen.

Materials Needed: Bible or Bible App, Ring-Shaped Cereal, Bag

GO DEEPER



MORNING MOMENTS

Read Luke 19:8
Remember, **God (Point up) loves me (hug yourself), no matter what!** (*act like a referee calling "Safe!"*)
When we follow Jesus, He changes our hearts and helps us make good choices. Jesus can help us be kind and love others even when it is hard. What did Zacchaeus do that showed God had changed his heart? He gave the people back their money! Today we are going to practice saying we are sorry when we do wrong and how to make a change!



CREATIVE CONNECTION

Read each scenario and talk about why someone might act that way. Then, share how Jesus can change your heart, help you say you're sorry, and make a change.

- **Pushing when you're angry** - Sorry: help the person up, say you're sorry, play a game with him to cheer him up. Changed Heart: Next time, talk about why you are angry and work together.
- **Screaming to get your way** - Sorry: tell whoever you are screaming at you are sorry. Changed Heart: Use your words to explain how you are feeling.
- **Making a mess** - Sorry: Realize making a mess is not taking care of your things or being kind to others. Changed Heart: Clean up before starting something new. Put things in their proper place.



TABLE TIDBITS

Set out spoons and bowls of ring-shaped cereal, such as Cheerios. Help each child pour four spoonfuls of cereal in a small bag. Tell children to pretend their bags of cereal are bags of coins. Encourage children to share some of the cereal from their bag with someone else at home. Remind them that Zacchaeus gave his money away.



CUDDLE CLOSE

Pull your child close beside you and say, "Always remember Jesus is near." As you tuck them into bed sing "Zacchaeus was a wee little man." Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you: Dear God, Help me to say I am sorry when I do wrong, Thank you for your forgiveness, You are so kind, Amen.