

## BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”  
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

## PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

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**MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK**



 **Jody & Ruth Miller | United States**

1. Pray for Amel, a neighbor and former student whose husband recently passed away.
2. Pray for those we know in the States who do not know English well. They are struggling with rumors and mis-information.
3. Jody has been delivering groceries to some of the seniors in our community. Pray for him to both be a light and to stay safe during this stressful time.

GROWTH  
GUIDE

WELCOME  
*Home*

Handout: 06//28/20

Study: 07/05/20

## Finding Home With Jesus

In the Gospel of Luke, Zacchaeus enters a big scene only to be largely ignored. He was trying to join the crowd that had gathered to see Jesus as he passed through Jericho. Zacchaeus was a small man, but he was also the chief tax collector, and so he was chiefly despised. The walls of men and women who blocked his view were excluding more than a man of diminutive stature; they were shutting out a man of depravity, wealth, and corruption. So Zacchaeus climbed a tree.

The rest of the story is well known. Zacchaeus was sitting inconspicuously in a tree when Jesus walked by, looked up, and called him down. At Christ's invitation, the morally bankrupt, socially shunned tax collector came down from the tree and his life took a dramatic turn. At the conclusion of their time together, Jesus proclaimed, "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost" (Luke 19:10). Zacchaeus had been found.

The Greek word for "lost" in this passage is best understood, not as doomed or damned as we often interpret, but "not in the right place." The effect is that the finality of lostness is somewhat assuaged. Someone is looking for the misplaced coin or the sheep that has gone astray. Someone is looking in a way that he wouldn't if he thought it was gone forever. What is lost and in the wrong place is being sought by the one who knows the right place. What is lost is missed.

Prior to meeting Jesus, like those of us displaced by sin, banished in judgment, or lost in anger or fear, Zacchaeus was in the wrong place. But he was not beyond the saving arm of God. He was lost, but there was someone looking. He was out of place, but not out of reach. Jesus did not come to confirm customary exclusions, nor to endorse social and spiritual hierarchies. Immediately before his encounter with a man lost in wealth and corruption, Jesus came beside a man lost in blindness and poverty. Immediately after his iconoclasm in life of Zacchaeus, Jesus came beside teachers lost in the idolatry of religion. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

There is no one too lost to be found, no misplaced soul too far from God's reach. God knows where we are, now, and Christ is always looking. Despite his way of life up to this point, Zacchaeus was not to be cut off from the people of God. "[T]his man, too, is a son of Abraham," said Jesus. And his words seemed to be spoken as much to the crowd who shunned the sinner as to the sinner himself.

Source: "Misplaced" by Jill Carattini

## KEY VERSE

Luke 19:5 (NKJV)

*And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house."*

## WEEKLY READINGS

**Monday: Luke 19:1-10; Jeremiah 29:13**

### Introduction

1. Has there been a time in your life when you felt ignored or even worse despised? Describe the circumstances.
2. How has God demonstrated to you that He cares about "misplaced" people?

**Tuesday: Luke 19:1-4; Philippians 3:7-9; Matthew 16:13-17**

### Seek Jesus

3. Zacchaeus had financial wealth, but in what ways was he in need?
4. How can past sins and guilt keep you from wanting to be in the presence of Jesus? What can we learn from the example of how Zacchaeus sought after Jesus?

**Wednesday: Luke 19:5; Matthew 9:12-13; Luke 15:4-7**

### Seen By Jesus

5. What can we learn about Jesus love for us from today's scripture reading?
6. Jesus invited himself to the house of Zacchaeus, but what was Jesus inviting Zacchaeus to spiritually?

**Thursday: Luke 19:6; John 10:27-28; I Peter 1:3**

### Say Yes To Jesus

7. How did Zacchaeus respond to Jesus' invitation? How did you respond when Jesus first invited you into a relationship with Him?
8. How quickly do you say yes to Jesus when He tells you to do something?
9. How joyful are you when you say yes to Jesus?

**Friday: Luke 19:7-10; I John 4:9-14; Romans 10:9-13; 12:1-2**

### Surrender All To Jesus

10. Zacchaeus was seeking Jesus, but Luke 19:10 shows us that Jesus was also seeking Zacchaeus. How has Jesus sought you in your life?
11. How did the people react to Jesus being a guest of Zacchaeus? How did Jesus view Zacchaeus?
12. Why was it important for Zacchaeus to take actions that supported his change of heart?