



ZACCHAEUS





In Jericho lived a rich man,
his name was Zacchaeus.

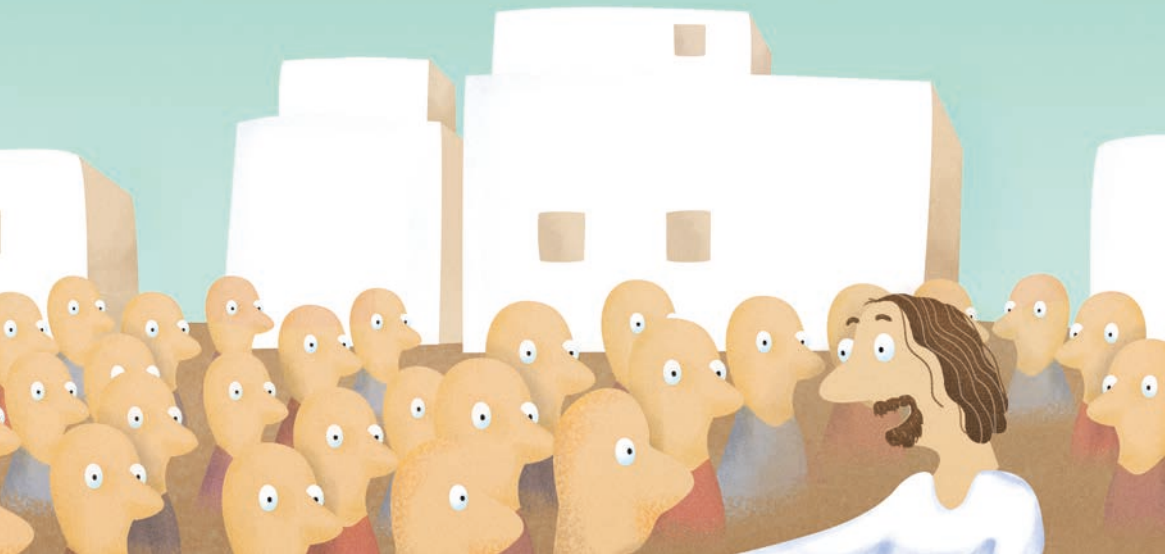
He was a chief tax collector.
Anyone who wanted to go to town,
had to pay him money at the gate.
Zacchaeus often cheated people.
He forced them to give him too much money.
Only then did he let them go into town.
Because he was so greedy, no one liked him.

One day Zacchaeus heard
that Jesus had come to town.
Many people admired Jesus and
everywhere they told about His miracles.
Zacchaeus really wanted to see Him!





But Zacchaeus could not see Jesus,
because he was too short.
The many people blocked his view.
But he had a good idea.
He ran to the next tree on the road and climbed up.
Now he could see Jesus!





Then Jesus passed by
and discovered Zacchaeus between the branches.
Jesus smiled at him and called:
“Zacchaeus, come down immediately!
I want to eat with you today.”

As fast as he could, Zacchaeus climbed down.
He was very pleased that Jesus wanted to come to Him
and took Jesus into his house.





When the other people saw it, they got angry.

“How can Jesus be invited by such a cheater?
This Zacchaeus does not deserve a meeting
with Jesus!”




At home, Zacchaeus prepared a great feast for Jesus.
Over dinner, he listened anxiously to what Jesus had to say.
This touched him so deeply that he suddenly cried:
“I want to give half of my money to the poor.
And those I have cheated, I will pay back four times the amount.”

Then Jesus rejoiced greatly and said, “How beautiful
that you no longer want to cheat!
From today, you will have a new life with God.”







Nobody liked Zacchaeus because he was so mean.
But Jesus saw more in Zacchaeus.
That is why Jesus came to his home.
Jesus also sees you and wants to come into your heart.

Zacchaeus was fascinated by Jesus and
therefore he wanted to put his life back in order.
This brought a lot of joy to his life.
You too can experience this joy,
when you invite Jesus into your heart
and let him change you!

No one likes Zacchaeus,
because he stole money from many people.
But Jesus, the famous Miracle Worker,
still wants to have something to do
with Zacchaeus...



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