

Small Things Show BIG CHANGES

Luke 19:1-10

- **Zacchaeus' story reminds us transformation often starts with something small.**
- **Zacchaeus didn't perform a miracle, preach a sermon, or make a grand gesture - he simply wanted to see Jesus, and that small desire led to a life-changing encounter.**
- Jesus - *"Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you."* (Matthew 7:7-8)
- **When we take small steps toward God, He always responds in big ways.**
- *"Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you."* (James 4:8)
- **Every time we move closer to Jesus, He meets us right where we are.**
- Jesus - *"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much."* (Luke 16:10)
- **God often uses small acts of faith to prepare us for greater transformation.**
- ***What do we need to understand about experiencing personal transformation?***

If We Want to Experience Personal Transformation We Must:

<u>SEEK</u> TO SEE THE LORD AT WORK

- *"He (Zaccheus) tried to get a look at Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree beside the road, for Jesus was going to pass that way."* (Luke 19:3-4)
- **Zaccheus was not going to let anything get in the way of him seeing Jesus at work.**
- The Lord - *"If you look for Me wholeheartedly, you will find Me."* (Jeremiah 29:13)
- **The Lord is not playing hide and seek with us; He is easy to find for anyone who is seeking Him.**
- *"It is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to Him must believe that God exists and that He rewards those who sincerely seek Him."* (Hebrews 11:6)
- **It is always fruitful to seek the Lord's work within us.**

If We Want to Experience Personal Transformation We Must:

INVITE THE LORD INTO OUR LIVES

- *"When Jesus came by, He looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. 'Zacchaeus!' He said. 'Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today.' Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy."* (Luke 19:5-6)
- **It should bring us great joy and excitement when Jesus shows up.**
- The Lord - *"Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends."* (Revelation 3:20)
- **We must make the decision to invite Jesus into every part of our lives.**
- *"But to all who believed Him and accepted Him, He gave the right to become children of God."* (John 1:12)
- **All real children of God have a desire to mature and grow and become more like the Lord.**
- *"If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."* (Romans 10:9)
- **Salvation is the beginning of the sanctification process.**

If We Want to Experience Personal Transformation We Must:

GET HONEST BEFORE THE LORD

- *"But the people were displeased. 'He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner,' they grumbled. Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord . . ."* (Luke 19:7-8)
- **Zaccheus was willing to be honest about the sin in his life, while the onlookers were being dishonest about their own sin and past.**
- *"If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness."* (1 John 1:8–9)
- **We can't confess our sin if we are living in denial, pride, and self-reliance.**
- David - *"When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long… Finally, I confessed all my sins to You (O God) and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, 'I will confess my rebellion to the Lord.' And You forgave me! All my guilt is gone."* (Psalm 32:3, 5)
- **Nothing brings healing like confession and repentance before the Lord.**

If We Want to Experience Personal Transformation We Must:

MAKE RESTITUTION AND GENEROSITY A PRIORITY

- ***"****Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, 'I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!'"* (Luke 19:8)
- **True repentance always leads to actions of restitution and generosity.**

When we experience personal transformation then we will want to:

- ***Clear Our Conscience***
    - **Transformation begins when we invite God to search our hearts and expose what's been hidden.**

    - *“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends You, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.”* (Psalm 139:23–24)
- ***Make Things Right With Others***
    - **Repentance is more than feeling sorry - it’s taking action to repair what was broken.**
    - Jesus - *“If you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person.”* (Matthew 5:23–24)
- ***Live a Life of Generosity***
    - **Zacchaeus’ giving reflected the heart of the gospel - God gave first, and He gave His best.**
    - *“For God loved the world so much that He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.”* (John 3:16)
- **Our personal transformation towards generosity will always lead others closer to the Lord.**
- *“For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, He will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you. Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.”* (2 Corinthians 9:10-11)

- **When Jesus entered Zaccheus’ home, He also entered his heart.**
- Jesus - *“Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham.”* (Luke 19:9)
- **Salvation always precedes transformation which is why Zaccheus’ heart and habits change.**
- Jesus - *“Let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.”* (Matthew 5:16)
- **The story of Zacchaeus reminds us that small steps of faith reveal big changes of heart , because when Jesus really takes over our life - our priorities, relationships, and even our wallet - all start to look different.**
- Jesus - *“For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.”* (Luke 19:10)
- **Jesus saved Zacchaeus—and that’s what He still does for us today.**