

HOPE FOR LOSERS

Losers and Winners, Saints and Sinners – Part 1

July 8, 2018

Luke 19:1-4 (NIV) “Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ² A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. ³ He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see Him, since Jesus was coming that way.”

HOW DO YOU DEFINE A LOSER?

A loser is "ONE-DOWN"

Zacchaeus was "one-down..."

- PHYSICALLY.
- POLITICALLY.
- MORALLY.
- SOCIALLY.

HOW DO WE COMPENSATE FOR LOW SELF-ESTEEM?

Ways To Raise Your Status Level...

- PERFORM and ACHIEVE in order to earn status.
- "ONE-UP" everyone and seize your desired status.

WHAT DOES JESUS OFFER TO LOSERS?

Four Key Points In The Story...

1. Jesus SOUGHT Zacchaeus.

Luke 19:5 (NLT) “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.’”

Luke 19:10 (NIV) *“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”*

John 3:17 (MSG) *“God didn't go to all the trouble of sending His Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again.”*

2. Jesus ACCEPTED Zacchaeus as he was.

Luke 19:5 (MSG) *“When Jesus got to the tree, He looked up and said, ‘Zacchaeus, hurry down. Today is My day to be a guest in your home.’ ”*

Romans 3:24 (CEV) *“But God treats us much better than we deserve, and because of Christ Jesus, He freely accepts us and sets us free from our sins.”*

3. Zacchaeus chose to FOLLOW Jesus.

Luke 19:6 (NLT) *“Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy.”*

Luke 19:8 (NLT) *“Meanwhile, 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!’ ”*

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT) *“This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”*

4. Jesus BELIEVED in Zacchaeus.

Luke 19:9-10 (CEV) *“Jesus said to Zacchaeus, ‘Today you and your family have been saved, because you are a true son of Abraham. ¹⁰ The Son of Man came to look for and to save people who are lost.’ ”*

Romans 5:8 (NCV) *“But God shows His great love for us in this way: Christ died for us while we were still sinners.”*