

## Parents Connect

**Bible Story:**  
Zacchaeus Met  
Jesus (Luke 19:1-10)

**Bible Phrase:** "Jesus  
said, 'I love you'"  
(John 15:9).

**Bible Truth:**  
Jesus loves me.



## God's Unfolding Story



1. God created everything



2. People disobeyed God.



3. God chose a special people.



4. God sent Jesus to help us.



5. Jesus began the Church.



6. Jesus is preparing heaven for us.



### Unfolding God's Story For Parents

Likely one of the first spiritual concepts that you learned was "God is love." During this month we will be reminded of His amazing LOVE and the way that Jesus demonstrates that love. This story is a favorite for preschoolers because Zacchaeus was short.

Talk about times that we go someplace but we cannot see because everyone is tall and standing in front of us.

Ask, "What would you do if Jesus was coming and you wanted to see Him, but you were too short to see over the crowd."

Say, "Let's see what Zacchaeus did."

Tell the story.

Explain, "Jesus loves people and wants them to know and love God."

Talk about the verse and pray together.  
Give thanks for the love of Jesus.

### Bible Story Zacchaeus Met Jesus (Luke 19:1-10)

There was a rich man named Zacchaeus who was a tax collector. Tax collectors got money from the people to give to the king. Some tax collectors were dishonest and took more money than they should from the

people. They would keep the extra money for themselves. Zacchaeus was not an honest tax collector. He probably did not have very many friends because of way he treated people.

One day, Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was in town. He was curious about Jesus and wanted to see Him. Crowds of people already had gathered as Jesus walked down the street. Zacchaeus was not very tall, so he could not see above the people's heads. He decided to run ahead and climb up into a tree so he could watch as Jesus passed. Zacchaeus found a nice large sycamore tree, climbed up the tree and waited for Jesus to come down the street.

Zacchaeus watched as Jesus got closer. Suddenly, Jesus stopped right under the tree where Zacchaeus was sitting! Jesus looked up at Zacchaeus and said, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down because I am coming to your house today." Many people around said, "Why would He go to the home of someone who is dishonest and unkind?" However, Jesus wanted Zacchaeus to know how much He loved him.

Zacchaeus quickly came down out of the tree and took Jesus to his home. Zacchaeus saw the love and kindness Jesus showed to him that day. He was sorry that he had taken more money from the people than he should have taken. Zacchaeus told Jesus, "I will give back to the people more money than I took." That day Zacchaeus chose to be a follower of Jesus.

### Activity Suggestion Make a Pretend Tree

Go outside with your preschooler and find a small branch from a tree or bush. Use that to make a "Zacchaeus Tree." Place the end of the branch into a lump of playdough to hold it up. Add other elements of the story by coloring pictures of Zacchaeus, Jesus and the crowd. Cut them out and tape them into the scene. Talk while you work together about how Jesus loved Zacchaeus.