

Zacchaeus climbs a tree to see Jesus.

Luke 19:1-9

Many people followed Jesus. They wanted to see what He did and hear what He said. There were so many people that Zacchaeus couldn't see. He stood on his tiptoes, but he still couldn't see. He jumped up and down, but the other people were too tall. He asked taller people to move over, but they ignored him. Zacchaeus was too short. And nobody would help him because Zacchaeus had cheated them all out of a lot of money.

Finally, Zacchaeus ran ahead of the crowd. Zacchaeus found a tree that he knew Jesus would pass by. Zacchaeus climbed the tree and waited.

The crowd came closer. Now Zacchaeus could see Jesus! Jesus was coming toward the tree! Jesus stopped under the tree. Jesus looked up at Zacchaeus and said, "Zacchaeus, come down. I must stay at your house today." Zacchaeus was excited!

Zacchaeus climbed down the tree and hurried home with Jesus. Zacchaeus wanted to do what was right. He gave half of everything he had to the poor. He promised to give back four times anything he had stolen. Zacchaeus was glad Jesus loved him.