

Zacchaeus

A reading for two based on the story of Zacchaeus.

1. As Jesus was passing through Jericho, a man named Zacchaeus tried to get a look at Jesus, but was too short to see over the crowds.

2. What things are crowding your life, what is stopping you see Jesus. What things are getting in your way when you should be coming to meet Jesus?

1. So Zacchaeus ran ahead and climbed into a sycamore tree beside the road to watch from there.

2. Jesus wants you find space here and now so you can see him clearly. Are you willing to climb above those everyday distractions and take time to look to Jesus?

1. When Jesus came, he looked at Zacchaeus and called him by name. Zacchaeus, he said, quick, come, for I am going to be a guest in your home today.

2. Jesus is calling you by name, yes you, no don't look round, he really means you, He wants to be your guest here and now.

1. Zacchaeus hurriedly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy.

2. Do you want to walk with Jesus, are you excited at the prospect. Do you want to welcome Jesus into your life?

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CALL TO WORSHIP

And there were in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And lo, an angel of the Lord appeared unto them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. But the angel said unto them, fear not for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.

Good tidings of great joy?? So why do we see so many harassed faces in the shops, children arguing after only two days of the holidays, families divided, others alone, the cardboard homes in the cities.

Jesus said 'I am the light of the world. He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life'.

So if people really followed Christ, they would have this joyful news shining in their life. So why don't they?

Let your light so shine before this world that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

Hold on - you were talking about Christ before. Now you're saying I've got to do something. I need to have his light shining in my life. But how do I do that?

When they saw the child with his mother Mary, they knelt down and worshiped him. They brought out their gifts and presented them to him.

To have his light, we need to come humbly and truly worship and then be willing to bring our lives as a gift to Christ this Christmas.