TALK IT OVER

CASE STUDY
Zacchaeus

BOTTOM LINE

It's impossible to hide transformation.

CONVERSATION STARTER

What changes must happen in your life to get ready for the holidays?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCE

- The Daily: newpointe.org/thedaily
- Attitude of Gratitude by Chuck Swindoll (1 min.)

VERSES AND QUOTES

Jesus entered Jericho and made his way through the town. There was a man there named Zacchaeus. He was the chief tax collector in the region, and he had become very rich. He 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. 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. But the people were displeased. "He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner," they grumbled. 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!" Jesus responded, "Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost." Luke 19:1-10 NLT

"Zacchaeus was not just climbing a tree. He was climbing out of his past, out of his mistakes, out of his regrets. He was climbing toward hope, redemption, and a new beginning." – Dwight Mason

TALK IT OVER

Despite his wealth and status, Zacchaeus was unsatisfied and searching. What might he have heard about Jesus that so intrigued him? What might he have felt when Jesus called him by name and invited himself home? Everything changed for Zacchaeus when he responded to Jesus. His ATTITUDE changed. He came curious but became humble. What evidenced his humility? How does transformation require humility? Discuss how lack of humility figures in lack of true transformation. His IDENTITY changed. Everyone else was identifying him by his worst characteristics and decisions. Jesus identified him by grace. What did it mean for Jesus to call him a "son of Abraham?" Jesus never ignores our past, but he refuses to let it define our future. What does that mean to you personally? A new attitude and new identity led to true change in his BEHAVIOR. He totally reversed his life focus from greed to radical generosity. Genuine repentance changes the way we live: how we treat people, how we manage resources, how we fix the wrongs of our past. What is your personal testimony in these areas?

ACTION STEP

True encounter and transformation with Jesus always results in change. I will work with God in this area: _____