

April Weeks 3 and 4



April 21st/22nd
April 28th/ 29th

OVERVIEW CARD

ZACCHAEUS

Key Question:

Who does Jesus love?

Bottom Line:

Jesus loves everyone.

Memory Verse:

“Love each other as I have loved you.”

John 15:12, NIV

Bible Story Focus:

Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong.

Zacchaeus

Luke 19:1-10

Coloring Page:

Zacchaeus climbs a tree to see Jesus.

Music:

Love One Another

My Best Friend

Praise the Lord Everyday

Bible Lesson:

God’s Story for Me Bible

Jesus Loves Zacchaeus

Pages 403 to 408

Story:

I Know Jesus Loves Me

by P.K. Hallinan

Memory Verse –

“LOVE EACH OTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU.”

John 15:12, NIV

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April 21st/22nd
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ACTIVITY 1 – 2's/3's only ZACCHAEUS

Money

Big Idea:

Place the coins around the room and let the children collect them and place them in the correct numbered bucket.

What You Need: 5 plastic buckets with “Numbers 1-5”, and 30 gold coins

What You Do:

- Place the buckets in a row in number order.
- Place the coins around the room for the children to “find.”
- Tell the children that coins are hidden throughout our classroom.
- Have the children find and collect all the coins.
- Once all the coins have been found, help the children count the coins together.
- Point to the buckets and show them the numbers/dots on the side of each one. Ask the children to help you count out the coins and place them inside to match the number on each bucket.
- Collect all the coins/buckets and Bring it Back to Jesus*.

What You Could Say:

Before the activity: “Hey, friends! I have a fun game for us to play! We are going to play with these coins. (Show the kids the coins.) There are coins like this one hidden throughout our classroom and we have to find and collect them all. Can you help me find all the coins? (Pause) Great! Let’s collect all the money! When you find a coin, bring it here and place it on the table.” (Give the children time to gather the coins.)

“Great job! Now let’s count our coins to see how many we have. (Pause to count the coins.) Do you see these buckets? (Pause.) How many buckets are there? (Pause.) Yes! We have five buckets. On the side of each bucket, there is a number. Let’s count out that number of coins and place them inside the correct bucket. So the ‘2’ bucket should have two coins, the ‘3’ bucket should have three, and so on. Let’s count!”

After the Activity: “You are great money counters! In our Bible lesson today, we heard about a man who asked people for money but instead of money he got something much better! Zacchaeus did not make good choices but Jesus loved him anyway! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!”

Memory Verse –

“LOVE EACH OTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU.”

John 15:12, NIV

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ACTIVITY 2 – 2's/3's only **ZACCHAEUS**

Wee Little Man

Big Idea:

“Teach the children the “Wee Little Man” song with motions.

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Have the children stand in front of you.
- Teach the song “Wee Little Man” with the movements. If you need a refresher, visit our Vimeo page: <https://vimeo.com/59452658>
- Repeat several times.
- Have the children sit down and Bring it back to Jesus*

Zacchaeus was a wee little man, and a wee little man was he (*hold up right hand and make a backwards “C” with thumb and forefinger*)

He climbed up in a sycamore tree (*pretend to climb a tree*) for the Lord he wanted to see (*hold flat hand over eyes*)

And when the Savior passed that way (*march in place*) He looked up in the tree (*look up*)

And he said, “ZACCHAEUS, YOU COME DOWN!” (*point finger*)

For I am going to your house today, for I am going to your house today (*march*)

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “I am going to teach you a super fun song today that is all about our Bible lesson!”

During the Activity: “Everyone sing with me and do what I do! (*Sing the song and do the actions as described above.*) Great job! Let’s do it again!” (*Repeat several times.*)

After the Activity: “Nice work! Zacchaeus did not make good choices, but Jesus loved him anyway. **Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**”

Memory Verse –

“LOVE EACH OTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU.”

John 15:12, NIV

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ACTIVITY 3 - ALL ZACCHAEUS

Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus What Do You See - Memory Verse?

Big Idea:

Children will play a game of "I Spy" while practicing their memory verse.

What You Need: Step Stool.

What You Do:

- Place the stool in the center of the room.
- Have the children stand in a circle and place a low stepping stool in the middle of the circle. (*Have a volunteer stand right next to the step stool and assist children.*)
- Pick one child to stand on the stool and pretend to be Zacchaeus.
- Have the children in the circle say this rhyme:
Zacchaeus climbed up in a tree. Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus, what do you see?
- Zacchaeus" looks around the room and picks something he sees but only tells the leader what it is.
- The children then have to guess what "Zacchaeus" sees in the classroom.
- The child who guess correctly becomes the next Zacchaeus. If the children do not guess correctly after a few times, pick a child to be Zacchaeus.
- Have the children say the memory verse together as a group before each new round.
- Keep playing until all the children have had a chance to be Zacchaeus.
- Have the children sit down and Bring it back to Jesus*

What You Say:

During the Activity: "Our Bible lesson today was about a very short man. Something wonderful happened to him when he climbed up in the tree. Let's pretend this step stool is a tree and play a fun game of I Spy together. I want to teach you a fun rhyme about Zacchaeus! It goes like this: 'Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus climbed up in a tree. Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus, what do you see?' Can you say that with me? (Pause.) 'Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus climbed up in a tree. Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus, what do you see?' Great! I will pick one friend to be Zacchaeus and stand on our stool. He will pick something he sees in our room and we have to guess what it is. But we first have to say our fun rhyme before guessing!"

After the Activity: "Zacchaeus took money from people, but Jesus was kind to him anyway! Jesus asked him to come down from the tree that he had climbed and to take Him to his house. **Zacchaeus did not make good choices, but Jesus loved him anyway. Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!"**

Memory Verse –

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ACTIVITY 4 – 4's/5's only **ZACCHAEUS**

Knee Races

Big Idea:

Children will complete a relay race on their knees.

What You Need: No supplies are needed.

What You Do:

- Mark out a starting line and a finish line.
- Divide children into two teams.
- Have each team line up in a single file line behind the starting line.
- Have the children “walk” on their knees as fast as they can to the finish line and back.
- Have the children sit down and Bring it back to Jesus*

What You Say:

During the Activity: “We are going to play a super fun game today. *(Point.)* When I say, ‘Go,’ the first person in line will walk as fast as they can to the finish line and back. Sounds like fun! But, you can’t walk on your feet, we all have to walk on our knees as fast as we can to the finish line. Are you ready? *(Pause.) (Do activity.)* Great job!”

After the Activity: “Great job, everyone! You are great knee walkers. Zacchaeus took money from people, but Jesus was kind to him anyway! Jesus asked him to come down from the tree that he had climbed and to take Him to his house. **Zacchaeus did not make good choices, but Jesus loved him anyway. Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**”

Memory Verse –

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ACTIVITY 5 – 4's/5's only ZACCHAEUS

Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus, Don't take our Money?

Big Idea:

Play a fun game by hiding a gold coin in one child's hand while another child has to guess who has it.

What You Need: Pretend Gold Coin

What You Do:

- Guide the children to sit in a circle.
- Choose a child to be "Zacchaeus"
- Have "Zacchaeus" sit in the middle of the circle and ask him to close his eyes.
- Have all the children put their hands behind their back with palms open.
- Place the coin in the hand of one of the children sitting in the circle, All of the children should continue to keep their hands behind their back and pretend to have the coin as well.
- Have the children say, "Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus, don't take our money?" Then ask "Zacchaeus" to open his eyes and try to guess who had the coin.
- Give "Zacchaeus" three chances to guess.
- Continue the game by allowing the child who hid the coin behind her back to be the next "Zacchaeus"
- Continue the game until every child has had a chance to be "Zacchaeus"
- Have the children sit down and Bring it back to Jesus*

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's play a game! We are going to play, 'Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus, Don't take our money?' Everyone sit in a circle."

During the Activity: "One person is going to be 'Zacchaeus' They will sit in the middle of our circle and close their eyes. I will give one of our friends this coin (*hold up*) to hide. The person who is 'Zacchaeus' will have three chances to guess who is hiding the coin. Whoever is hiding the coin will be "Zacchaeus" the next round and sit in the middle of the circle. Are you ready to play?" (*Pause.*)

After the Activity: "You are great money hiders! In our Bible lesson today, we heard about a man who asked people for money but instead of money he got something much better! **Zacchaeus did not make good choices but Jesus loved him anyway! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**"

Memory Verse –

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CRAFT WEEK 3

ZACCHAEUS



Zacchaeus in the Tree

What You Need: Zacchaeus cut out and Tree Activity Pages on white cardstock, glue sticks, green tissue paper, yarn, tape, crayons and a hole punch

What You Do:

- Have children color the Zacchaeus cut out with crayons.
- Place green tissue paper and yarn in the center of the table.
- Give each child a Tree activity page, and a glue stick.
- Demonstrate how to glue the tissue paper onto the Tree activity page to resemble a tree.
- Tape the bottom of the yarn to the back of the colored Zacchaeus cut out.
- Punch a hole about an inch from the top of the Tree activity page, and thread the yarn through the hole.
- Leaving enough yarn so Zacchaeus is at the bottom of the tree, tie a double knot in the yarn in the back of the Tree activity page.
- Encourage the children to pull the yarn from the back of the page to make Zacchaeus climb the tree.
- Write child's name on their page and place inside white bag.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We heard a wonderful story today! Zacchaeus was not very nice to people, but Jesus loves everyone!"

During the Activity: "We are going to make a tree for Zacchaeus to climb just like in our lesson. (Do activity.) Great job! Now pull the yarn at the back of the plate. (Demonstrate.) It makes Zacchaeus climb the tree! Great job!"

After the Activity: "Zacchaeus took money from people, but Jesus was kind to him anyway! Jesus asked him to come down from the tree that he had climbed and to take Jesus to his house. **Zacchaeus did not make good choices but Jesus loved him anyway! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**"

Memory Verse –

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CRAFT WEEK 4

ZACCHAEUS

Fingerprint Tree

What You Need: “Fingerprint Tree” Activity Page on white cardstock, green stamp pads or green dot markers

What You Do:

- Give each child a ‘Fingerprint Tree’ activity page.
- Demonstrate how to use the finger paint or dot markers.
- Encourage the children fill in the tree to look like leaves.
- Wipe messy fingers with the wet wipes.
- Retell the Bible story as the children work.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Zacchaeus climbed up a tall tree to see Jesus. He did not make good choices, but Jesus loved him anyway.”

During the Activity: “I see a tree trunk on our paper next to Zacchaeus. *(Point.)* We need to finish the tree so that Zacchaeus can climb it to see Jesus. *(Do activity.)* Great job! Zacchaeus was taking too many coins from people and that was not a good choice. Jesus knew he was not making good choices, but He wanted to be Zacchaeus’s friend anyway. Jesus told him to get down from the tree and take Him to his house. WOW! Jesus loved Zacchaeus no matter what!”

After the Activity: “**Jesus loves everyone**, no matter who they are or what they do. He loves all of us! **Zacchaeus did not make good choices but Jesus loved him anyway! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**”

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PLAYDOH/ PRAYER TIME ZACCHAEUS

PRAYER/PLAYDOH TIME

What you Need: Parent Take Home Card, Playdoh, Heart Cookie Cutters, Rolling Pins, and Sticker Roll

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “It’s Prayer and Playdoh time! That means we get to go to our special spot. Let’s pretend we’re Zacchaeus from the Bible lesson and we’re looking for Jesus like this. *(Demonstrate looking for something with your hand over your eyes as you look from side-to-side.)* Ready to look for Jesus? *(Pause.)* Follow me! *(Pretend to look for Jesus as you walk.)* We made it! Now let’s sit down so we can talk about our lesson. One, two, three, sit down with me!”

SGL: “We learned today in our lesson that **Jesus loves everyone**, even Zacchaeus who did not make good choices. **Zacchaeus did not make good choices but Jesus loved him anyway! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!** I want to make a list of things that make it hard for us to love others. Like how:

- When our friends won’t share their toys.
- When your brother or sister are being mean.
- When we get in trouble for something we didn’t do.
- When someone eats the last cookie or dessert that was saved for us.

SGL: “When we pray we can ask God to help us love everyone even when they do something wrong. When I say your name, **tell me one thing that makes it hard for us to love others.** *(Pause)* Thank you for sharing those things. God wants us to love everyone the way **Jesus loves everyone.** Sometimes it’s hard when they do something wrong but we can remember to forgive others and love them anyway—the same way Jesus forgives us and loves us. Now I’ll pray.”

SGL: “Ok, it’s time to review our lesson. I am going to ask you some questions and you will get a sticker for answering them. I have some really cool stickers today. Are you ready? *(Pause.)* Great!”

- Go from child to child and have them repeat the memory verse for a sticker.
- Ask the children the Bottom Line question for a sticker.
- Using the Parent Take Home card, ask each child individually the questions pertaining to this week’s lesson and give out a sticker.

Memory Verse –

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