

High School Discussion Guide

Living Beyond Our Walls: For the week of November 20 - 26, 2022

Main Thought:

Zacchaeus was perhaps the most hated person in his community. He was a chief tax collector, meaning he worked for the oppressive Roman government by collecting taxes from his fellow Jews. Needless to say, tax collectors were not very welcomed by others—except by Jesus. Jesus invites Zacchaeus to a meal, much to the complaint of others, and shows Zacchaeus love and care. In response, Zacchaeus' heart transforms. There are people like Zacchaeus around us—those who might feel like outsiders—whom Jesus wants to reveal His love. Will we be like those who hated Zacchaeus, or will we be like Jesus and show them love and care?

Main Scriptures:

“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!’

⁹Jesus responded, ‘Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.’” (Luke 19:8-10 NLT)

“And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39 NLT)

“Jesus answered them, ‘Healthy people don’t need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners and need to repent.’” (Luke 5:31-32 NLT)

Discussion Questions:

- Share a time you felt far from Jesus. What happened?
- What is preventing you from loving those outside your walls?
- What is one new thing you learned about Jesus?

Prayer

- Pray for our church sites throughout the island (Pearl Highlands, Downtown, Kapolei, Nanakuli, and Mililani)
- Pray for one person you think needs to experience God’s love this holiday season.