

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

GOD HAS MADE A GREAT MANY PROMISES. THEY ARE ALL "YES" BECAUSE OF WHAT CHRIST HAS DONE. SO THROUGH CHRIST WE SAY "AMEN." WE WANT GOD TO RECEIVE GLORY. – 2 CORINTHIANS 1:20

PROMISE OF BELONGING

JESUS SAID, "LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME. DON'T KEEP THEM AWAY. THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN BELONGS TO PEOPLE LIKE THEM."

POINT TO SELF

WAVE TOWARD SELF

SHAKE HEAD "NO"

POINT UP

SPREAD ARMS TO GROUP

STORY: ZACCHAEUS BELONGS – LUKE 19:1–10

DISCUSS:

READ THE BIBLE STORY FROM LUKE 19 OR FROM YOUR FAVORITE STORY BIBLE. HAVE YOUR KIDS RETELL THE STORY IN THEIR OWN WORDS & ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TOGETHER.

1. Why do you think Zacchaeus wanted so badly to see Jesus, even though the crowd didn't like him?
2. How do you think Zacchaeus felt when Jesus called him by name and wanted to come to his house?
3. Have you ever felt left out, like Zacchaeus was? What does it mean to you that Jesus still welcomes you?
4. What does the Promise of Belonging tell us about God's family and how we are always included?
5. How can we show others—especially people who might feel left out—that they are welcome too?

BIG IDEA: JESUS WELCOMES EVERYONE

DID YOU KNOW?

The sycamore tree Zacchaeus climbed was not like the sycamore trees we often see in North America today. In the Bible, the "sycamore" was actually a kind of fig tree, known for its thick trunk and strong, low branches that spread out wide—making it easy to climb. These trees could grow very large and live for hundreds of years, and their fruit was a food for common people in Israel. It's interesting that Zacchaeus, a wealthy man who took from others, climbed a tree that produced food for the poor—reminding us that Jesus came for both the rich and the poor, because Jesus welcomes everyone.

SOMETHING TO NOTE:

Zacchaeus wasn't just short—he was also a tax collector, and that made people dislike him even more. In Bible times, tax collectors were known for being unfair and greedy, often taking extra money from people to keep for themselves. Because of this, Zacchaeus was overlooked, judged, and shut out by society. But Jesus didn't see him the way others did. Instead, Jesus stopped, called Zacchaeus by name, and went to his house. This shows us the truth of our Bible Point: Jesus welcomes everyone—no matter who they are or what others think about them.

PROMISES

PRAYER PROMPT:

Take a moment to thank God that, just like Zacchaeus, we are seen, known, and welcomed by Jesus. Pray together something like this:

"Jesus, thank You for seeing us and welcoming us into Your family. Help us share Your love and make others feel like they belong too."