
L. UNDERSTANDING THE MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE

L.6 I understand that Jesus came to seek and save the lost.

Luke 19:10

A STORY A father went camping with his family. One afternoon one of the children wandered down the river and took a trail that confused her. When she tried to make it back to the camp, we could not find her way. She began to wander around not sure where to move next. She sat down near a tree and began to cry.

Her father realized after a little while that he could not find his daughter. He cried out and sought to hear his daughter respond. Once he faced the reality that she was not to be found, he began a wholehearted search to find his daughter. Even when it seemed hopeless, he did not give up till he heard his daughter crying. The attitude was to do whatever to seek and save his daughter from danger and possibly death.

How is this story like how Jesus feels about us?

DIGGING INTO THE BIBLE

Luke 19:7-10

⁷All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

⁸But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because

this man, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

DISCUSSION AND DISCOVERY

1. What do you know about this story of Zacchaeus?
2. Who was this man?
3. How did people characterize this man?
4. What made him invite Jesus over to his house?
5. What did Jesus mean when he said "salvation has come to this house?"
6. What does it mean the son of Man came to seek and save the lost?
7. What makes someone lost in Jesus' eyes?

APPLICATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

8. What would make you recognize if you are lost?
9. How do you think Jesus feels about you?
10. What would it take for you to be found?