



ZACCHAEUS MEETS JESUS

LUKE 19:1-10

GOAL

To help children become familiar with the story of Zacchaeus, and learn the lesson of generosity, fairness, and following Jesus.

CHARACTERS

Jesus: Jesus paid attention to the little man with a big problem. He actually met with him and taught him to do good.

Zacchaeus: He was short, and climbed a tree to see Jesus. Jesus came to his house and helped him to see his sin, which led him to decide to make restitution to those from whom he had stolen money.

MEMORY VERSE

Luke 19:10: For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

MEMORY VERSE MEANING

Luke 19:10: Being lost means we don't know where we are and we don't know how to get to where we want to go. Jesus came to find us and point us in the right direction toward eternal life with Him.

OVERVIEW

Read Luke 19:1-10: Zacchaeus was a tax collector who charged people more than they actually owed so he could keep the extra amount. Because of this, he was hated and despised by just about everyone. Zacchaeus was a very short man, who wanted to see Jesus, but couldn't see or hear over the crowds. One day, he found out where Jesus was going and ran ahead of him so he could climb a tall sycamore tree so he could see Jesus as He passed by. As Jesus came near, He called Zacchaeus to come down from the tree. Jesus went to Zacchaeus' house for dinner, where He explained living a life of truth. Zacchaeus repented and promised to repay everyone. That day, he found acceptance with Jesus, who came to seek and save the lost.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 1



Q1a: What did Zacchaeus do for a living?

A1: He was a tax collector.

Q1b: If someone gave you \$20 to buy something that costs \$15, is it okay to keep the change?

TN: No, that's stealing! Now, imagine you told this person that the thing they wanted wasn't \$15, it was \$25 so that you could keep even more of their money. That is what Zacchaeus was doing. He was telling people that they owed more tax money than they actually did, and then he kept the excess. That makes him a liar and a thief.

SLIDE 2



Q2a: Who wanted to hear Jesus teach?

A2: Zacchaeus

Q2b: Have you been to a concert or an event in a huge stadium or arena?

TN: Sometimes at big venues like these, it's hard to see the stage where the band or other type of act is performing. There was a lot of talk about Jesus and that caused more and more people to want to see Jesus. Each time He appeared in public, people would crowd around Him to hear Him teach.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 3



Q3a: Why couldn't Zacchaeus get a glimpse of Jesus?

A3: The crowds were too large and the people were too tall.

Q3b: Have you ever not been able to go on an amusement park ride because you were too short?

TN: In the students' case, they don't have to worry, as they are likely to all grow tall enough to ride on any ride they want. But poor Zacchaeus had to get creative to get what he wanted.

SLIDE 4



Q4a: How did Zacchaeus plan to catch a glimpse of Jesus?

A4: He climbed a sycamore tree.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 5



Q5a: What did Jesus say to Zacchaeus?

A5: Jesus said He must stay at Zacchaeus' house that night.

Q5b: How would you react if Jesus told you He was coming over for dinner tonight?

TN: What?! That's a huge deal! While it would be super cool to have dinner face to face with Jesus, we should always remember, that He's always with us. So technically, we have dinner with Him every night!

SLIDE 6



Q6a: Why were people and the religious leaders shocked to see Jesus with Zacchaeus?

A6: They didn't think that someone who was a teacher of the law should be seen with a sinner like Zacchaeus.

SLIDE 8



Q8a: How did Zacchaeus' sin make him feel?

A8: He felt deep sorrow and regret.

Q8b: Do we have to pay back people we've sinned against like Zacchaeus did?

TN: No, but admitting that we were wrong and apologizing to anyone we've sinned against is never a bad idea. Zacchaeus responded this way because he was led by the Holy Spirit to make amends with people in his community in this way. If Zacchaeus hadn't decided to repay those he had wronged, Jesus still would have forgiven him. We can never earn our forgiveness; it is only through Jesus' sacrifice that we are forgiven and saved when we repent.



MEMORY
VERSE

▶ **Luke 19:10:** For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

BIG IDEA

▶ Jesus loves everyone, even sinners.

CLOSING
PRAYER

▶ Dear God, You chose to come to Zacchaeus' house and have dinner with him, even though he was a bad man and had a bad reputation. That's how You love people. That's how You love us. Thank You for loving us that way! Help us to love others. We ask these things in Jesus' name, Amen.

ZACCHAEUS MEETS JESUS

CROSSWORD

ANSWER KEY

Across

2. Zacchaeus gave **(Half)** of everything he owned to the poor after Jesus visited.
4. Zacchaeus was **(Rich)** and short.
5. In order to see Jesus, Zacchaeus climbed a **(Sycamore)** tree.
7. Jesus told Zacchaeus to come down so that he could stay at Zacchaeus's **(House)**.
8. Jesus wanted to show Zacchaeus how to **(Obey)** and serve God.

Down

1. People disliked Zacchaeus because he stole money from their **(Taxes)**.
3. Jesus **(Forgave)** Zacchaeus for all of his sins.
4. The **(Religious)** leaders couldn't believe Jesus would willingly eat with a sinner.
6. To people Zacchaeus had cheated money out of, he gave back **(Four)** times as much as he had stole.

ZACCHAEUS MEETS JESUS

Luke 19:5

And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him,
"Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today."



Family Devotional



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ZACCHAEUS MEETS JESUS

Luke 19:10

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.



Family Devotional



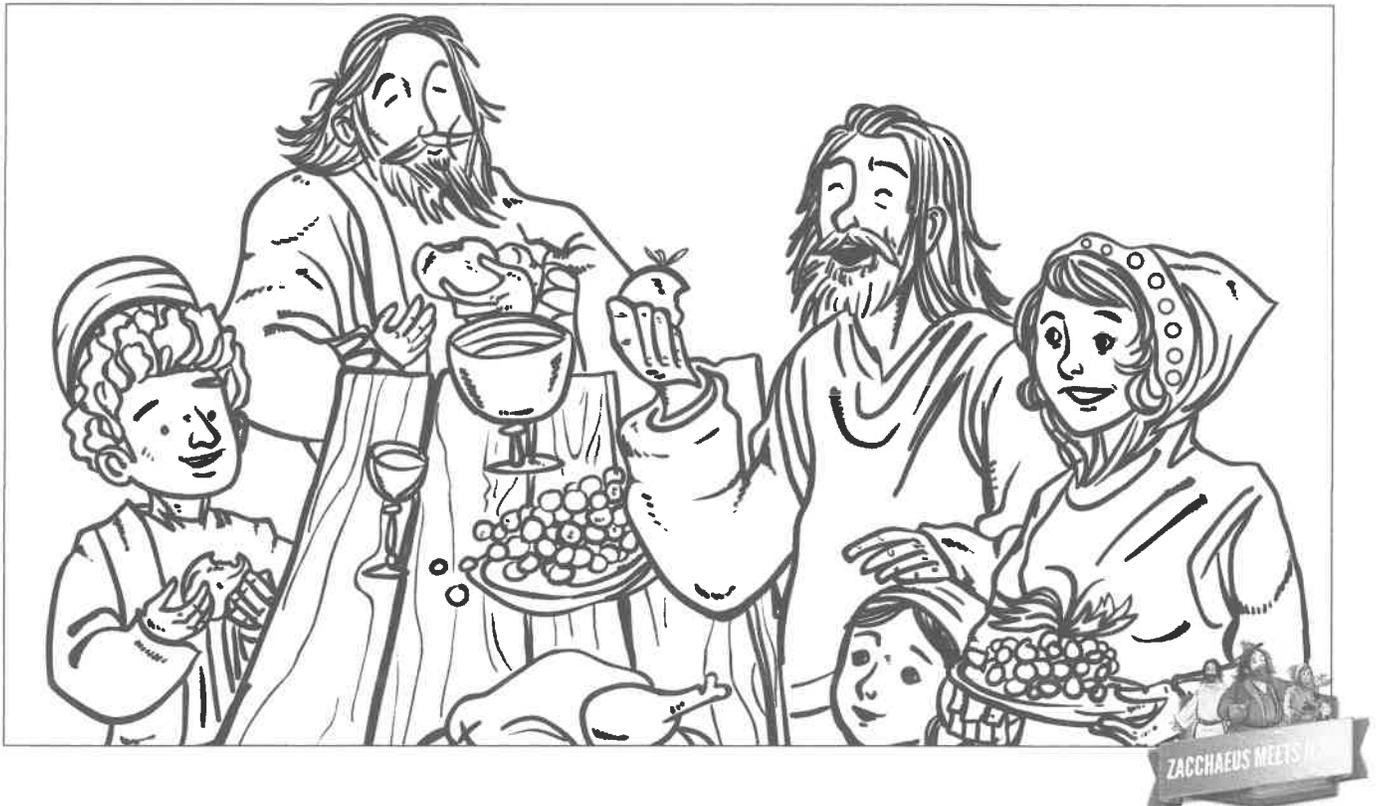
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ZACCHAEUS MEETS JESUS

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



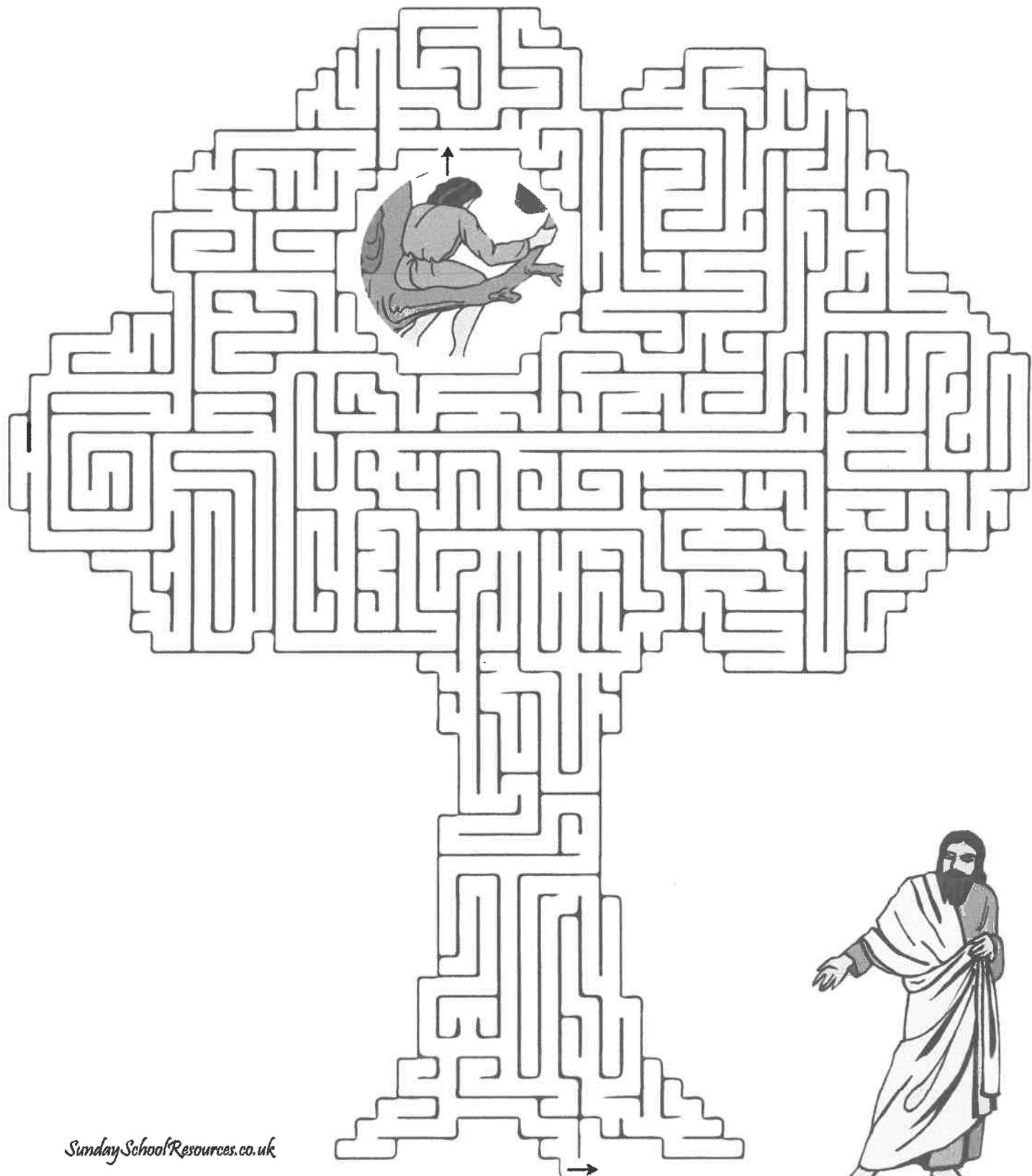
ZACCHAEUS MEETS JESUS

Help Zacchaeus climb the sycamore tree.

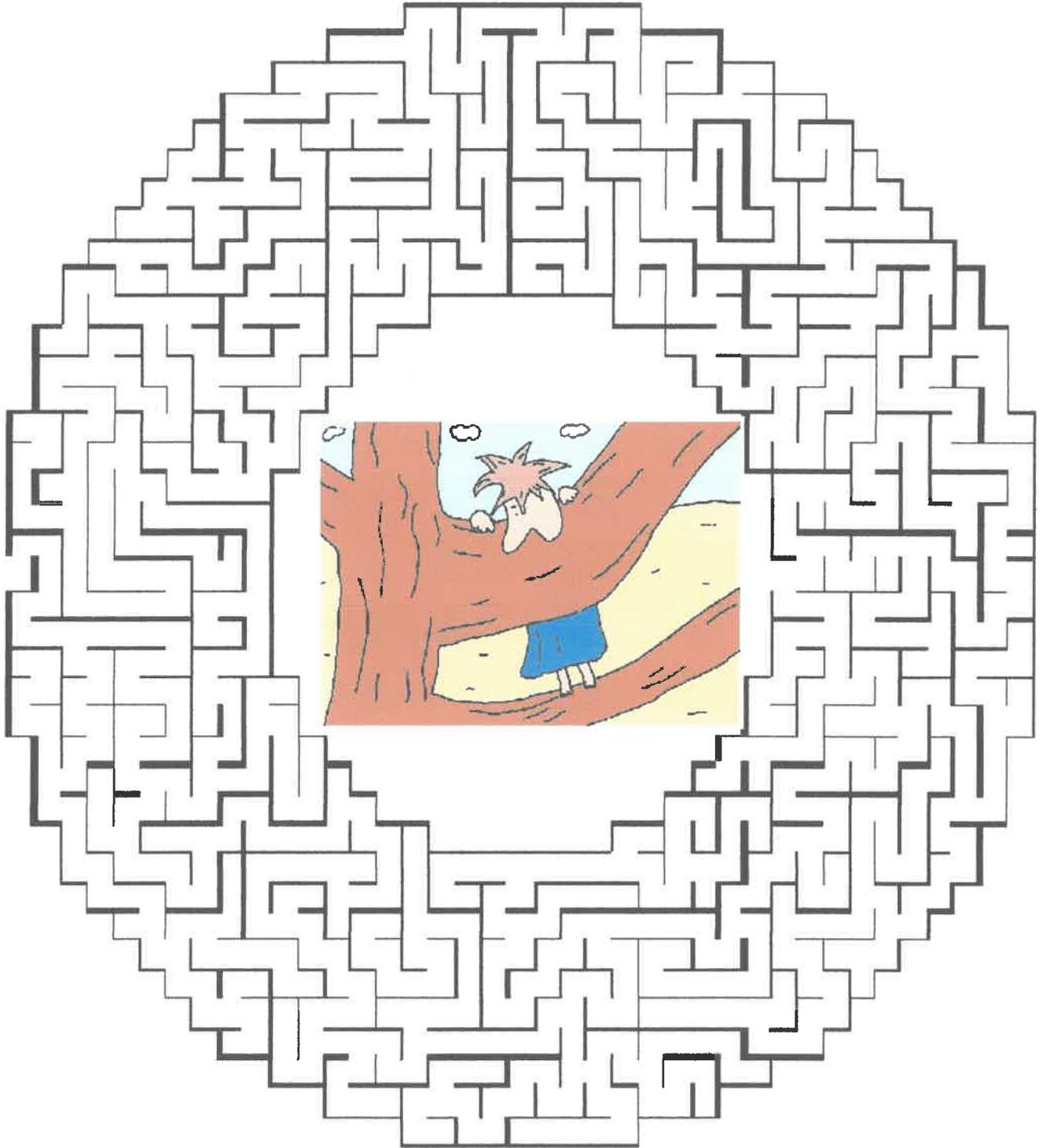


Zacchaeus Meets Jesus

Help Zacchaeus climb down from the tree so he can meet Jesus!



Zaccheus





ZACCHAEUS MEETS JESUS

Discover the hidden words.

J	Y	H	Z	Y	O	H	R	S	O	F	A	E	E	T
F	I	E	X	C	B	E	U	S	B	O	N	G	S	A
Z	E	O	N	B	E	E	S	R	E	R	C	N	O	X
E	S	W	H	O	A	P	T	E	Y	G	S	F	I	E
U	Q	H	Y	H	M	Q	E	N	I	I	R	P	O	S
J	E	Q	C	M	S	D	A	N	P	V	L	R	F	U
V	E	C	Z	G	C	Z	L	I	I	E	T	F	X	T
E	A	S	D	X	D	K	O	S	E	N	Q	S	B	I
Z	Z	T	U	R	Z	W	C	D	R	E	N	E	U	Y
X	J	C	X	S	K	Z	B	Y	O	S	T	R	X	T
R	E	L	I	G	I	O	U	S	M	S	N	V	C	E
V	J	B	S	I	A	V	N	X	A	J	T	E	E	E
B	Z	W	C	R	H	U	C	R	C	O	N	R	Z	W
J	Z	P	F	Z	J	X	C	J	Y	O	T	N	Y	E
L	J	F	B	U	S	O	I	M	S	G	A	R	F	S

Word Bank

ZACCHAEUS
 SYCAMORE
 TREE
 OBEY

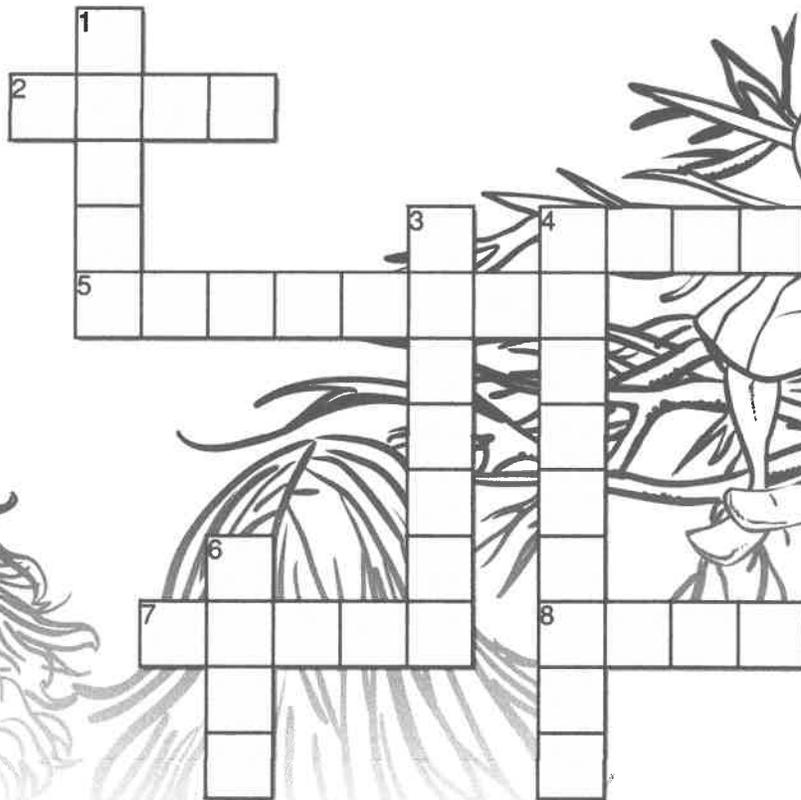
SERVE
 TAXES
 FORGIVENESS
 RELIGIOUS

SINNERS
 MONEY
 STEAL
 JESUS



ZACCHAEUS MEETS JESUS

Luke 19:1-10



Across

2. Zacchaeus gave ____ of everything he owned to the poor after Jesus visited.
4. Zacchaeus was ____ and short.
5. In order to see Jesus, Zacchaeus climbed a ____ tree.
7. Jesus told Zacchaeus to come down so that he could stay at Zacchaeus's ____.
8. Jesus wanted to show Zacchaeus how to ____ and serve God.

Down

1. People disliked Zacchaeus because he stole money from their ____.
3. Jesus ____ Zacchaeus for all of his sins.
4. The ____ leaders couldn't believe Jesus would willingly eat with a sinner.
6. To people Zacchaeus had cheated money out of, he gave back ____ times as much as he had stole.

