

XTRA! 23rd July 2020 Zacchaeus in the tree

We'll light a candle and make our space as we hum:

Gathering Song: Their Choice

(Be Still, Come into His presence)

During which the table is set (green cloth) and candle is lit.

Greeting

Peace be with you **And also with you**

Kyrie Confession

Introduce confession. Then:

Father God, we are sorry for the times when we have thought things that do not please you. [*pause*]

Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy**

We are sorry for the times when we have said things that do not please you. [*pause*]

Christ have mercy **Christ have mercy**

We are sorry for the times when we have done things that do not please you. [*pause*]

Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy**

Absolution

May the God of love bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gloria: Their Choice

(Peruvian Gloria, Anderson Gloria, Gloria round)

Reading: Zacchaeus

A reading from the Gospel of Luke from the NT.

How many Gospels are there? What are their titles?

What are all of them about?

It's a while since we had this story. I wonder if we can retell it together? Call out each memory and I'll write them on a piece of paper. Then we'll put them in the right order.

Read the story

Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it.

A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way.

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." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him.

All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner."

Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.”

Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

Did we get it in the right order? Did we miss anything out?

Group Discussion

Two groups

- I wonder what it feels like to be very short;
- I wonder how Zacchaeus felt when everyone was grumbling about him;
- I wonder how Zacchaeus felt when he had made the important decision to change his mind;
- I wonder if you have ever had to make an important decision to change your mind about something;
- If you could choose to invite one amazing person to come and have tea with you, I wonder who it would be.

Song: *Their Choice*

Prayer

Jesus said that we should love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us so today in our prayers we are going to pray about those things...

Focus on a central candle – silently pray for those people who are mean to us and do horrible things to us; silently pray for those people we find it difficult to get on with; silently pray that we might find a way of loving all of those people.

Lord's Prayer: Their choice

Cake Time! *Danni's birthday – 13 today*

Blessing

May the lightness of God go with you
May the brightness of God go with you
May he shine on all you do.
May God bless you.

Messy Grace

Resources:

Refreshments;
Candle, matches;
Lots of pieces of paper and a pen
Plates and napkins