

# February 18, 2018

**Bible Words:** "Love each other as I have loved you." John 15:12, NIV  
Zacchaeus • Luke 19:1-10

**Bottom Line:** Jesus loves everyone.

**Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

*The extended toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the Bible Truth and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos. The same Bible Truth will be told in four (or five) different ways throughout the month allowing for the repetition toddlers need and crave.*

## **Bible Time**

- Draw It

## **Craft Time**

- In a Tree

## **Play Time**

- Parachute Play

## **Bible Time**

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the Bible Truth. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's OK. They're still listening and learning!

**What You Need:** Preschool Bible, dry erase board, dry erase markers

**What You Say:** "Hello, my friends. Let's sit together and hear our Bible Truth today. Now, in this awesome TRUTH, there is a guy named Zacchaeus who was a tax collector. *(Draw Zacchaeus.)* Zacchaeus had made some very bad choices. He took money from the people and kept it for himself! *(Draw money bag or coins.)* This made the people SUPER angry at Zacchaeus, and nobody liked him.

"One day, Jesus came to town and everyone rushed to see Him. *(Draw Jesus.)* Now, Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd!

"So Zacchaeus climbed up into a tree so he could see Jesus over the crowd. *(Draw tree next to Jesus.)* When Jesus came by and looked up in that tree, He saw Zacchaeus. Do you think Jesus knew that Zacchaeus had made bad choices? *(Pause.)* Yep. Jesus knew. But Jesus loved Zacchaeus anyway.

"He said, 'Zacchaeus, please come down! I'm going to your house today.' After all he had done, Jesus still loved Zacchaeus and wanted to spend time with him. *(Draw house with Zacchaeus and Jesus outside.)*

"Zacchaeus came down from the tree and spent time with Jesus. And after spending that time with Jesus, Zacchaeus didn't want to be selfish and steal anymore.

"Jesus loved Zacchaeus even when He made bad choices. ***[Bottom Line]*** Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love? ***[Bottom Line]*** Jesus loves everyone."

## **Craft Time**

Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's OK. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.

**What You Need:** "In a Tree" and "Zacchaeus" Activity Pages, crayons, and glue sticks

### **What You Do:**

*During the Activity:* Retell the Bible Truth as the children use the crayons to color the tree and then glue Zacchaeus in the tree.

### **What You Say:**

*During the Activity:* "During Bible Time today, we heard about a guy named Zacchaeus who was a tax collector. Zacchaeus had made some very bad choices. He took money from the people and kept it for himself! This made the people SUPER angry at Zacchaeus, and nobody liked him.

"One day, Jesus came to town and everyone rushed to see Him. Now, Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd!

"So Zacchaeus climbed up into a tree so he could see Jesus over the crowd. When Jesus came by and looked up in that tree, He saw Zacchaeus. Do you think Jesus knew that Zacchaeus had made bad choices? *(Pause.)* Yep. Jesus knew. But Jesus loved Zacchaeus anyway.

"He said, 'Zacchaeus, please come down! I'm going to your house today.' After all he had done, Jesus still loved Zacchaeus and wanted to spend time with him.

"Zacchaeus came down from the tree and spent time with Jesus. And after spending that time with Jesus, Zacchaeus didn't want to be selfish and steal anymore.

"Look at your paper. Here is the tree that Zacchaeus climbed. Can you color it with your crayons? Good job. Now let's glue Zacchaeus into the tree. He climbed the tree so that he could see Jesus.

"Jesus loved Zacchaeus even when He made bad choices. ***[Bottom Line]* Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love? *[Bottom Line]* Jesus loves everyone."**

## **Playtime**

### **Parachute Play**

**What You Need:** Parachute

**What You Do:** Gather friends around the parachute and shake it while chanting, “Jesus loves everyone.” Vary the speed with which you shake and the volume at which you chant. Continue as long as there is interest.

**What You Say:** “Everyone, come and play with the parachute with me! While we shake the parachute, we’re going to say, ‘Jesus loves everyone.’ Can you say that with me? Jesus loves everyone. Good job. Now, let’s shake the parachute very fast. Now, shake it slowly. Great job. One more time! Jesus loves everyone!”