

08.18.21 – A Weekly Word for Covenant Church

Title: “What Do You See?”

Scripture Reading: [Luke 19:1-10](#); [Matthew 7:1-5](#); [2 Corinthians 7](#); [Romans 12](#); [Psalm 51 & 52](#)

Reflection: Pastor Henry

When you look at other people, what do you see? When you look at the other students on the class list in your homeroom this year, what do you see? When you look at your co-workers at work, what do you see? When you look at the in-laws and out-laws at a family gathering, what do you see? When you look at the people who live in your neighborhood and the different neighborhoods within our city, what do you see? When you look at the different people on your social media and news feeds, what do you see? When you look in the mirror, what do you see?

Do you see a sinner? Or do you see a son/daughter?

In our story for this week, on his way through Jericho, Jesus encounters Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector. The story of Zacchaeus is all about “seeing.” It is a story about what we see and what Jesus sees. It is a story about how we see, what we see, and what we might not want to see.

As you read the story for today, did you see how many times the verbs ‘to see’ and ‘to look’ are used directly and indirectly in these verses?

Reread [Luke 19:1-10](#) again in each of the different versions. As you reread, see what you see.

Now that you reread the story again, ...

Why do you think Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus so badly?

When Zacchaeus looked in the mirror each day, what do you think he saw?

When the people looked at Zacchaeus, what did they see?

When Jesus looked up in the tree at Zacchaeus, what did Jesus see?

When Zacchaeus looked down at Jesus looking up at him and talking with him, what did Zacchaeus see?

When the people saw Jesus talking with Zacchaeus, what did they see?

When you read Zacchaeus’ response to Jesus’ invitation, what do you see?

What do you see in Jesus’ final response to Zacchaeus?

When you look at other people around you, what do you see?

When other people look at you, what do they see?

When you look in the mirror each day, what do you see?

When Jesus looks at you, what does he see?

When you look at Jesus, what do you see?

What do you see happening in your response to Jesus’ invitation to you?

Friends what we see and what we don’t see about ourselves, others, and Jesus are extremely important for our (and others) spiritual health and well-being. What is it that the Spirit of God wants us to see about ourselves, others, and Jesus this morning through this story of Zacchaeus?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank you for seeing Zacchaeus differently than he and those around him typically did. Thank you for seeing us differently than we and those around us typically do. Spirit of God, enable us to see ourselves and others as Jesus, our Savior, and Lord, sees us. AMEN

Action Item for the Day/Week:

Take note this week of how you typically 'see' people.

When you encounter people at home, work, school, in your neighborhood, while doing errands, what do you 'see?' What, if anything, might need to change about how you see them?

Songs for today:

[Heart of God](#)

[Mighty To Save](#)

[Be Thou My Vision](#)

[Come and See](#)

[Who You Say I Am](#)