How to Have a Radical Encounter with Jesus
When Opportunity Knocks
Luke 19:1-10
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Luke 19:1-10 (KJV), And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. ² And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich. ³ And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.

⁴ And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycomore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way. ⁵ And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, "Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for today I must abide at thy house." ⁶ And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.

⁷And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. ⁸ And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord: "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold."

⁹And Jesus said unto him, "This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Ephesians 5:14-17 (NIV), This is why it is said: "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." ¹⁵Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

Matthew 5:8 (NIV), "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

Zacchaeus - Pure

What Others Are Saying About Opportunity

- "If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door."
 - Milton Berle
- "Don't wait for the right opportunity: create it."
 - George Bernard Shaw
- "Your big opportunity may be right where you are now."
 - Napoleon Hill
- "Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work."
 - Thomas Edison
- "To succeed, jump as quickly at opportunities as you do at conclusions."
 - Benjamin Franklin
- "I will prepare and someday my chance will come."
 - Abraham Lincoln
- "In the middle of every difficulty lies opportunity."
 - Albert Einstein
- "A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."
 - Winston Churchill
- "Opportunities are like sunrises. If you wait too long, you miss them."
 - William Arthur Ward
- "Nothing is more expensive than a missed opportunity."
 - H. Jackson Brown Jr.

How to Have a Radical Encounter with Jesus When Opportunity Knocks

1. Seize the moment with expectation.

Luke 19:1 (KJV), Jesus entered and passed through Jericho.

Jericho - Sweet

2. Choose not to allow your <u>limitations</u> to limit you.

Luke 19:2 (KJV), And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich.

Luke 19:3b (KJV), ...he was little of stature.

Luke 19:3a (NKJV), ...he could not because of the crowd.

3. Determine that you will not be <u>denied</u>.

Luke 19:3a (KJV), ...he sought to see Jesus...

4. Do what others are unwilling to do.

Luke 19:4a (KJV), He ran before, and climbed up into a sycomore tree to see him.

5. Get in the right position.

Luke 19:4b-5 (KJV), ...for he was to pass that way. ⁵ And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, "Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for today I must abide at thy house."

6. Obey <u>quickly</u> and <u>joyfully</u> when Jesus speaks.

Luke 19:6 (KJV), He made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.

7. Silence your critics by <u>surrendering</u> all.

Luke 19:7-8 (KJV), And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. ⁸ And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord: Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.

In case you missed it... Answers:

- 1. Moment
- 2. Limitations
- 3. Denied
- 4. Unwilling
- 5. Position
- 6. Quickly, Joyfully
- 7. Surrendering