

Week #1: You Matter to God

Four False-Flags of Measuring My Worth

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Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

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

Luke 19:1-10 (NIV)

JESUS _

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus..."

Luke 19:5 (NIV)

"...God never overlooks a single one. And he pays even greater attention to you, down to the last detail even numbering the hairs on your head!"...

Luke 12:6-7 (MSG)

• JESUS _____

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today."

Luke 19:5 (NIV)

"God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him." Luke 3:17 (NLT)

• JESUS _____

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Luke 19:7 (NIV)

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

Luke 19:9-10 (NIV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share an experience when you felt seen or valued. For example, your favorite grade-school teacher, a coach, co-worker, or friend encouraged you through positive affirmation of your gifts. What was that like? 2. From whom or what do you find self-worth or value? Are you more apt to seek recognition from others for your achievements, or from Scripture that shows how God sees you?

3. Who in your circle of friends, family and co-workers might need a word of encouragement to make them feel known and seen?

RESOURCE LIST

- The Purpose Driven Life, by Rick Warren
- The Prodigal God, by Timothy Keller
- If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat, by John Ortberg

(NIV) New International Version (MSG) The Message (NLT) New Living Translation

Week #1: You Matter to God - FILL COPY

Four False-Flags of Measuring My Worth

- <u>APPEARANCE</u>.
- AFFLUENCE.
- <u>ACHIEVEMENT</u>.
- <u>APPROVAL</u>.

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• JESUS <u>SEES ME</u>.

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Luke 12:6- 7 (MSG)

• JESUS <u>PURSUES ME</u>.

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Luke 19:5 (NIV)

"God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him." Luke 3:17 (NLT)

• JESUS <u>CHANGES ME</u>.

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