

Positioning for Apostolic Vision

Luke 19:1-5, 9

He was hungry for God but did not have a good background and resume. Zacchaeus was an IRS tax collector, in vs. 2

Yet he heard Jesus was coming. He wanted to desperately see Him. He knew there needed to be a change in his life. Zacchaeus was a small and short man, so he had to fight his way through life just to survive in vs. 3

- Nothing came easy for Zacchaeus, when fighting to work his way to the top.
 - Zacchaeus was short on friends. He was short on people he could trust. Zacchaeus was short on joy and finding satisfaction with his job.
 - Zacchaeus climbing the ladder of work ethics doing what he had to do to survive but he still felt very empty and dissatisfied with his career and personal life.
 - Yet in all of his struggles to fight through the large crowds he was determined to get a new vision and look at Jesus Christ.
 - And like Zacchaeus most of us try to work hard to offer God our talents and our abilities.
 - But like Zacchaeus we can feel small in spiritual stature.
 - Life and its noises and demands become a crowd to our desire to follow after Jesus Christ.
 - So we try to wrestle our way through our careers, ministries, and personal ambitions just to find our purpose with God.
 - Like Zacchaeus we try to run ahead and position ourselves to be used by God and to hear from God and to know Him for ourselves.
 - The cry is in vs. 4 – I need to see Jesus for myself. I need to get a better look at God’s vision for my life. Zacchaeus ran to climb up a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus and position himself for a vision of Jesus.
 - Notice in vs 5 the incredible love of Jesus
- A. Jesus called him by name. Zacchaeus never met him. Yet Jesus was completely surrounded by the crowd and calls out his name.
- B. Jesus stopped and paid attention to an insignificant man who lived on insignificant Blvd. Ave.
- C. Jesus wanted to show Zacchaeus apostolic vision but He needed him to come down from:
- a. His own opinions of himself
 - b. From his own low self-esteem
 - c. From his own plans and goals that he controlled.
- D. Jesus demonstrates and initiates a desire to fellowship with an undesirable man, to bring him closer for love and relationship.
- E. Jesus cannot give you and me the vision for retching our cry until we come down from our set way of how we choose to serve Him.
- F. Come down. Read vs. 5 again.
1. Jesus knew where Zacchaeus was going to be, just like He knows where you’re going to be.
 2. Hurry and make haste – come down tonight. I need to reposition you for advancing the vision of POW.
 3. I need you to get closer to Me so I can show you My vision.

4. I must come and stay at your house and increase My love and voice with you tonight.

Read vs. 6 – Zacchaeus received Him joyfully because he was tired of the results he was getting in the lifestyle of a tax collector.

Read vs. 7

- People don't think highly of him because he burnt some bridged. He did not feel worthy to be called out by Jesus.

This requires brokenness on our part in order to receive Jesus with joy for fresh vision.

Read Is. 40:29 AMP – this verse reveals 2 powerful points on vision.

There are two important teaching points here. I want you to see concerning getting a new vision in your sycamore tree.

1. Jesus gave Zacchaeus a changed heart when He came into his house.
 - a. Jer. 17:9 says the heart of a man is deceitfully wicked and desperately wicked – who can know it.
 - b. Ps. 139:23 – says search me O God and know my heart, try me and know my anxieties and see if there be any wicked way in me.
 - c. Only when we visit daily our own private palanquin bed of prayer can we experience a change in our hearts.
 - d. Jesus came to Zacchaeus' house and changed his heart so Zacchaeus could follow the POW vision for reaching new souls.
 - e. God's heart is to dwell with you Zacchaeus. God's heart is to put His Word and Spirit in Zacchaeus.
 - f. Zacchaeus needed a heart change in order to follow the vision of the Lord. Read Is. 40:29
 1. This is a heart change. This is God changing fresh wounds into scars.
2. The second teaching point in getting a new vision is: God's heart will multiply and reproduce your life from your brokenness and not your competent successes.
 - a. Zacchaeus said in Luke 19:8 I will give away half my good to the poor. I have to clear my conscience because I may have cheated somebody.
 - b. This is reproducing yourself from brokenness. That's how POW and VCA started.
 - c. A changed heart does this from a broken will.
 - d. We must reproduce ourselves after God's own heart and not our zeal to be a part of a local fellowship. Read John 6:11
- A. The fragments here is the testimony of your fragmented past that God's heart uses to reproduce yourself in someone else.
- B. But Jesus requires absolute trust when He breaks you. This is not easy because to break something requires pain.
- C. The disciples had to trust Jesus while standing there with one small basket trying to feed a line of thousands. Just submit to the vision and God will use your fragments.
- D. This is what David did with sheep on the back side of the mountain. Read Acts 13:22. Why was he called a man after God's own heart?

- a. David cared intensely for insignificant sheep who lived on insignificant Blvd.
 - b. He risked his life for them. Read Ps. 51:17
1. You get God's heart in Zacchaeus' house or in the palanquin bed.
 2. You know you have God's heart when you allow Him to break yours and come down from on high from the sycamore tree of your opinions.

God's heart:

1. Controls my eyes
2. Controls my tongue
3. My temptation
4. My love for people
5. The way I dress and look

Some of us cannot get God's heart because we don't heal properly from past or current relationships, fresh wounds, and offenses. Like Zech. 13:6 which says where did you get these wounds?

- It's like the disease called hemophilia. (It's a genetic bleeding disease and disorder that does not heal wounds)
- God's heart will form scars over our wounds. Read. Gal. 6:17
- So like David we can only reproduce ourselves and fight our Goliath's based on how we lived in the wilderness.
- David could only fight with God's heart.
 1. God's heart was to protect and raise the insignificant sheep.
 2. Exhaust all you have to practice dwelling with His presence in Zacchaeus' house.
 3. Reproduce this heart in somebody else.

Reposition yourself for apostolic vision.

Read Is. 40:29

God is saying:

1. Bring Me your crushed heart.
2. Your broken heart
3. Bring Me your untrusting heart
4. Your weary heart.

And I will give you My heart in exchange. Then you can multiply yourself as a disciple maker.

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