

Jesus and Zacchaeus

November

Luke 19:1-10

Zacchaeus was not very tall. He was also not very well liked, since he became rich by collecting taxes. When Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was coming, he climbed a tree to see him. Jesus said that he would stay at Zacchaeus' house. The people were upset, but Zacchaeus promised to give back all that he had taken dishonestly.

The Gospel Story Through Gameplay

This game takes place in the walled city of Jericho as Jesus is passing through. Children begin the game just outside the city with the task of finding Zacchaeus at his home.

Upon finding Zacchaeus, children hear him say, "I want to go see Jesus." They must follow Zacchaeus as he runs to the place where Jesus is speaking to a crowd. Kids watch a cinema of Luke 19:1-4, where they see Zacchaeus jumping up and down trying to see Jesus over the crowd.

Children must then search for Zacchaeus. They can find him up in a sycamore tree. As gamers watch a cinema of Luke 19:5-10, Jesus walks up to the sycamore tree, looks at Zacchaeus, and says "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." Children see Zacchaeus quickly jump down from the tree. They hear the people grumble and Zacchaeus tell Jesus that he will change his ways.

Children are then told to go find Jesus and Zacchaeus at Zacchaeus' house. Upon finding them, kids are instructed to help Zacchaeus pay back those he cheated, as well as give money to the poor. Children take the money bags from Zacchaeus' table and then begin their search for five people who are in need. Kids find these people throughout Jericho. Some say, "Zacchaeus cheated me!" Others say "I am poor and in need of money." After helping Zacchaeus distribute all five of the money bags, children must find the Faith Focus before entering into the Bonus Round.

In addition to helping Zacchaeus, children are challenged to help other people. One woman needs to get bananas out of a tree. There is also a man who needs help rebuilding a wall, and a woman who needs to stomp grapes to get juice.

THE GAME IN 30 SECONDS

Find Zacchaeus, the wealthy tax collector, at his house.

Follow Zacchaeus to Jesus and watch a cinema of Luke 19:1-4.

Find Zacchaeus in the sycamore tree and watch a cinema of Luke 19:5-10.

Find Jesus and Zacchaeus at Zacchaeus' house.

Help pay back the people Zacchaeus cheated and to give to the poor. Take Zacchaeus' money from the table.

Find the Faith Focus.

Collect bonus tokens; then find the cross to end the game.

LIGHT THE FIRE

In the game this month, children see Zacchaeus give half his money to the poor and have several opportunities for service tasks.

Discuss with the kids: In the game this month, Zacchaeus gives money to the poor. What are things that you can do to help poor people or to be of service to others?

(Each month, "Light The Fire" will contain some fun gameplay activities related to the Gospel story. Use it to start a discussion with your children about this month's Bible story game.)

PASTOR'S COMMENTS

In this month's Gospel Champions game, children learn about Zacchaeus' encounter with Jesus and how it changes Zacchaeus' life. Zacchaeus repents and gives money to the poor. Do you look for ways you can give to others?

(The "Pastor's Comment" can be used after the Gospel reading to get the kids excited about the lesson and the related game.)

Saint of the Month

Blessed Miguel Augstin Pro

Kids find this special saint token near the center courtyard of the city.

Children learn that Blessed Miguel Augustin Pro brought the sacraments to the Catholic people in Mexico at a time when practicing the faith was forbidden by the government. He was arrested and executed.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What sacrifice can you make this week to help others and to make Jesus happy?



Corporal Works of Mercy

Shelter the Homeless

Children meet a man who is hot and sitting in the sun. They build a shelter for him.