

Zacchaeus: Lesson 2

SuperTruth: I will turn from my sins and follow Jesus.

SuperVerse: *But if we confess our sins to God, He can always be trusted to forgive us and take our sins away.* 1 John 1:9 (CEV)

Bible Story: Luke 19:1–10

LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

In today's lesson we will learn about how Zacchaeus turned from his sins and vowed to do things for people that most would think impossible.

- Superbook takes Chris, Joy and Gizmo to ancient Jericho, where they meet Zacchaeus. People despise him for being a tax collector for Rome, so they are amazed when Jesus reaches out to him, and Zacchaeus is saved and transformed. The children learn that Jesus came to seek and save every lost person.
- In today's Bible Background video, we'll learn more about the town of Jericho and tax collectors in the time of Zacchaeus.

SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Balloon Game: Bounce Back With Forgiveness (15 minutes)

Objective: Play a fun game to illustrate the SuperVerse.

- God loves us and offers forgiveness through His Son when we come to Him and let go of our sins. It doesn't matter what the sin is, He can always be trusted to forgive us.

Game Instructions:

- Without turning around, the first player on each team must toss the "sin" balloon backward over his/her head to the player directly behind. The balloon continues to move backward in this way until it is caught by the player at the end of the line. That player keeps the "Sin" balloon in one hand while using the other hand to toss the "Forgiveness" balloon to the player directly ahead. The "Forgiveness" balloon moves forward until it reaches the player at the front of the line.

Teaching: No Cover-up (15 minutes)

Objective: Discuss how God takes our sins away.

- The people in Jericho grumbled when Jesus stopped to talk to Zacchaeus. Jesus knew exactly what He was doing; He came into the world specifically for lost people like Zacchaeus.

Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (2 minutes)

- The craft is the Coin Pouch and Coins. The challenge is found on Coin #3 and Coin #4.

SuperVerse: Superbook Takeaway (5 minutes)

Objective: Memorize the SuperVerse with a group activity.

- God can ALWAYS be trusted to forgive us and take our sins away—every time! How wonderful our God is!
- Write the verse with extra words on the board. Have children raise their hands to tell you which words to "take away," one word at a time. Erase the words until you end up with the correct verse. Then, say the correct verse together

Prayer: Confession Prayers (5 minutes)

Objective: Communicate with God.

- We need to admit that we have sinned against God and need His forgiveness.
- In our prayer time today, let's silently confess any sin that you know you have committed in disobedience to God and His Word and tell Him you are sorry. Next, silently ask God to forgive you and wash you clean from the sin and guilt

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (REFER TO THE LESSON GUIDE FOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS)

Relay Game: Play a game to receive mercy and forgiveness. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

Blindfold Game: Place Zacchaeus in a tree to see Jesus. | **Grades 1–3** | 10 min

Turning Game: Play a game to follow Jesus. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

Bible Activity: Race to find verses about confession and repentance. | **Grades 4–6** | 15 min

Game Materials Needed:

- Bible or the Superbook Bible App
- Permanent marker
- Four medium-size balloons, plus extras for breakage

Teaching Materials Needed:

- Turn Away Page
- Whiteboard and marker or chalkboard and chalk
- Eraser
- Cardstock—one sheet
- Scissors
- Tape
- Painters tape or masking tape
- Bibles or the Superbook Bible App
- Discipleship Challenge Materials:
 - Coin Pouch Page—one per child
 - Coin Page—one per 2 children
 - Yarn—about 30 inches per child

SuperVerse Materials Needed:

- Whiteboard and marker or chalkboard and chalk
- Eraser
- One long sheet of butcher paper or wrapping paper—enough to cover up the SuperVerse
- Painters tape or masking tape
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

Prayer Materials Needed:

- Bible or the Superbook Bible App