

Zaccheus, a Small Man with a Big Heart  
Luke 19:1-10

Main Idea: True faith produces life change. Suddenly, the focus shifts from this life to eternity!

One of the women I greatly admire is Elisabeth Elliot. You may remember that she and her husband were missionaries to the Auca Indians, a primitive people in South America, when he was speared to death in an attempt to share Christ with them. She returned with their two-year old daughter to minister to the same people who killed her husband and ministered to them for seven years.

She has authored several books. She is not splashy, but she is wise. I just read an article about her and found out she is no longer speaking, but has dementia and her husband is lovingly caring for her in her later years.

During the course of a two-hour interview she never said a word until the very end. The article by Tiffany Owens states that she put into practice what she long preached. From acceptance comes peace. She turned to the Bible for comfort. Isaiah 43:2 states that, "When you pass through the rivers, I will be with you; when you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

Her husband stated that she handles dementia like she handled the deaths of her husbands. "She accepted these things [knowing] they were no surprise to God," her husband said, "It is something she would rather not have experienced, but she has received it."

Hearing those words, she looked up with eyes clear and strong, and nodded vigorously, "Yes."

Transition: How do we walk through the fire? How do we live out our ordinary lives day-by-day? We live by faith.

True faith produces life change, because our focus shifts from this life to eternity.

PASSAGE: Luke 19:1-10

I. Meeting Zaccheus

Place: City of Jericho - Jesus is passing through.

His profession: Chief tax collector

Characteristics: Rich and small in stature

II. Jesus calls Zaccheus

“I must stay at your house”

III. Response of others

IV. Response of Zaccheus

V. Compare to the Wealthy Ruler in Luke 18:22-27

VI. Compare to Mt. 18:12; Luke 15:4; John 1:43 & 5:14 & 9:35.

VII. Zaccheus did not “find” Jesus, but Jesus “found” him!!

Conclusion: True faith produces life change! LORD, help us to keep our focus on eternity in the day to day stuff of life this week. Like Elisabeth Elliot may we remember that you walk with us through the fire!