

March 13, 2016
The Last Lasts
The Last Tax Collector
Pastor Rick Rufenacht



Luke 19:1-10

We are *incomplete* without Jesus.

1 John 5:12 John 10:10

Close Enough *Isn't* Even Close

Work at *seeking* Jesus.

Luke 14:26 Luke 14:33 Jer 29:13

Divine Connection = Divine Conversion

1 Cor 6: 9-11

Have you ever wanted to see an event, or a special program, or a take part in a once-in-a life time experience?

What was the event and what kinds of things did you have to do to make it happen?

It has been said that *people will do whatever they have to in order to do what they really want to do*. Do you agree or disagree with that statement? How have you seen that statement lived out?

Read Luke 19: 1 - 10

Consider Zacchaeus. How would people of the day have viewed him? If you had been in the crowd that day, would you have been happy that Zacchaeus was there? Would you have been happy that Jesus called him out and wanted to eat with him? Explain your answer.

Pastor Rick said that we need to work at seeking God.

Read Luke 15: 1 - 10

The parable of the lost sheep and the parable of the coin.

How much work did it take in each parable for the seeker to find what was lost? What kinds of work would have had to be done?

Consider seeking the Lord.

Read the following scriptures.

Ps 119:2 Ps 119:10 Pr 18:15 Jer 29:13

How does one seek God with their whole heart? How does one “work” at seeking the Lord?

What gets in the way of seeking the Lord? What do we need to work hard at getting rid of or past so that we can seek the Lord?

Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Jesus. He was seeking some new truth that was not present in his Jewish faith. How hard is it to go out on a limb to find our Lord?

Consider life change.

Read Luke 18:31-34

How does this account of the rich young ruler not being able to give up his wealth compare to the reaction of Zacchaeus? We may also have to give up our worldly stuff to gain Christ. What could some of these things be?

Why do you think Zacchaeus decided to make changes even before he had a conversation with Jesus? How does that impact your view of salvation and the change God can bring to our lives?

There were other people present in Jericho when Jesus spoke but their lives didn't change. What can keep us from hearing truth when it is spoken to us?

Should we expect change when we come to Christ? Why or why not?

A true transformation will be seen by others. How can we know if our lives have changed?

Read Matthew 7:20

What has changed in your life since you met Jesus? What things are currently changing? What things do you hope will change?