

Study

*Who Is Your  
One?*



**S H I N E**

A Word of Life Initiative

# *About the Program*

Bringing people to know God should be our number one priority.

This study will go through the importance of sharing Jesus' mission, why it is important to be committed and the importance of the mission God has called us on.

Use this study with the PowerPoint as a teaching guide to present to your church and youth group.

God has called us to go into the world preaching the gospel to all, let us fulfil this mission by spreading the gospel to the people in our circle of influence and beyond.

"He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."

Mark 16:15

## Luke 19:1-10

### INTRODUCTION

A million and billion. Have you ever thought about the difference between a million and a billion? It's only one letter that separates.

- To count to a million adding one number every second.... It would take you **11.5 days**.
- To count to a billion adding one number every second would take you almost **32 years!**

Here is the number: **7,740,780,919**... 7 billion, 740 million, 780 thousand and 919

- Total population of our world today – the total number of people living and breathing on this planet.
- Forty people are added every ten seconds.
- To count this number adding one number every second... it would take you **246 years**.

As followers of Jesus, we need to understand that every number in that total of more than 7.7 billion represents a soul. There are more than 7 billion people in the world.

But when you boil it all down, every person on earth is in one of two categories:

### LOST or FOUND.

**Key Verse:** For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost. – **Luke 19:10**

The lost don't just need finding; they need saving. This is why Jesus came into the world – not only to find people, but to save people. "You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." The lost are dead in their sins and need saving in a way that only Jesus can do.

John Piper

**Who was Jesus' one? ... Zacchaeus!**

### I. JESUS LOVES THE LOST

#### **What does it mean to be lost?**

##### **Ephesians 2:1-5**

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins, in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience, among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved.

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me.  
I once was **lost** but now I am **found**,  
Was blind, but now I see.

John Newton

## What Jesus did for Zacchaeus, He is able to do for every human being.

### i. Zacchaeus was Lost.

- Zacchaeus worked his way up and became the chief tax collector – the only person in the bible identified as such.
- Very wealthy and small... His name means Pure, Righteous.
- Zacchaeus was a despised man... he had lied and deceived people.
- Napoleon Complex Known as **short-man syndrome**, or the idea is that males of shorter stature like the French leader (pictured) make up for their lack of height with extra-assertive personalities. **Short men** may have every reason to be fed-up with their lot.

### ii. Zacchaeus was lonely.

- In fact the rabbis taught that associating with a tax collector was to make yourself unclean.
- They could not attend the synagogue.
- If you were a good Jew, you did not associate with these robbers.
- The Jews viewed them in the same light as a prostitute [8]
- In fact, "the Jewish Mishnah goes so far as to say it is permissible to lie to tax collectors to protect one's property." [9]
- So he is an outcast.

### iii. Zacchaeus was Loved.

#### Why Jericho

- Its gardens of roses were known far and wide. Men called it 'The City of Palms'... Josephus called it 'a divine region'
- Jesus had just crossed the Jordan River. He came from Perea and entered Jericho. Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem for the last time.
- Soon He will be crucified... He could have put many excuses not to go.
- Jesus came to Jericho for the purpose of seeking Zacchaeus.
- He not only knew he was hiding up there, but he also knew his name, commanded him.
- No one is too bad to be saved or beyond the power of God's grace to reach. Christ is able to save "to the uttermost." We should offer the Gospel boldly to the worst and most wicked of sinners, and say "there is hope."
- We see here a picture of Christ's compassion toward sinners, and His power to change human hearts. No one is beyond the reach of God's grace. We cannot emphasize too strongly that Jesus stands ready to save those who are ready to receive Him.

There is no pit so deep the love of Christ is not deeper still. **Corrie ten Boom**

**"I must stay at your house today."** The Greek word is *dei*, meaning it was necessary, it was a must. Another time Jesus had to go through Samaria, we are told in John 4. Why? Although there were other ways to go to Galilee, Jesus went this way because there was a prostitute, foreloved and chosen by God, given to Jesus Christ as a gift that he may save her.

In the same way Jesus told Zacchaeus, "Come down immediately. **I must stay at your house today.**" Jesus said, "I must stay at your house *today.*" **Today is a very important word.**

**Psalm 95:7** – To the thief on the cross Jesus said, "Today you will be with me in paradise."

## I. JESUS REACHES THE LOST THROUGH THE FOUND

**Why we need to be committed?**

**We need to have urgency!**

*If we understand what lies ahead for those who do not know Christ, there will be a sense of urgency in our witness... David Jeremiah*

**The Importance of the word GO!**

**Mark 16:15** And He said to them, "**Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.**"

The word **GO** is in the **Bible 1542 times** and the word **STAY** is in the **Bible 62 times.**

**The impact of the word Go.**

What a calling! What a mission! God calls you to join God in doing the impossible. This is why God is going to be glorified when you reach the lost. If anyone is going to be born again, it will happen by hearing the word of God, centred in the gospel of Jesus Christ... **John Piper**

### **1 Corinthians 9:19-23**

19 For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. 20 To the Jews I become as a Jew, in order **to win Jews**. To those under the law I become as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might **win those under the law**. 21 To those outside the law I become as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might **win those outside the law**. 22 To the weak I become weak, that I might **win the weak**. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. 23 **I do all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.**

**Five time he says that his aim is to win people:**

- Verse 19: "that I might win more"
- Verse 20: "that I might win the Jews... that I might win those under the law."
- Verse 21: "that I might win those who are without the law."
- Verse 22: "that I might win the weak."

English word: Win  
Spanish word: Ganar  
Greek word: kerdaínō

What does kerdaínō mean?

**Definition:** to gain, acquire, to get

**Metaphorically** - to gain any one i.e. to win him over to the Kingdom of God, to gain one to faith in Christ.

“We don’t fail in our evangelism if we faithfully tell the gospel to someone who chooses not to respond; we fail only if we don’t faithfully tell the gospel at all. Evangelism is telling them that they. Need to be saved and telling them how they can be.”

**A Passionate faith**

- **A Passionate faith** is at the heart of every dynamic movement... it is the greatest resources.
- **A Passionate faith** attracts both admiration and opposition.
- **A Passionate faith** is contagious example for the gospel. Like a virus the gospel travels along these lines of pre-existing contagious relationships.

“As I travel,” says author and journalist Philip Yancey, “I have observed a pattern, a strange historical phenomenon of God ‘moving’ geographically from the Middle East, to Europe to North America to the developing world. My theory is this: God goes where He’s wanted.”

**Philip Yancey**