



DGM Message Summary: Milk Cartons, Post Offices and Walmarts

Key Points:

- Luke 19:1
 - Jericho was the first city Joshua conquered after they crossed the Jordan; one of the first cities in the entire world
- Deuteronomy 34:3
 - Moses describes Jericho; the area was known for its palm trees during the time of Jesus and the New Testament
- Luke 19:1
 - Jesus passed through Jericho and he was less than 20 miles outside of Jerusalem; he knew what was coming; all the comforts of the world was in this town, but Jesus chose to pass through and continue to the cross
 - *What you can pass by on the way to your goal will determine whether you achieve it or not*
 - Every yes is by default a no to something else
 - In order for Jesus to fulfill the purpose and desire of his own heart, he had to say no to comforts and luxuries of the world
- *What you're willing to pass is important as where you say you're going*
- Zaccheus (Jewish man and chief tax collector that represented the Roman government; people hated him because he was a traitor)
 - This man was very wealthy, but he yearned for something his money could not buy (he sought to see who Jesus was)
 - Jesus is the answer to every person; moral or not (and the moral ones are the hardest to reach)
 - If we selected our church, we would ruin it because everyone would look the same
 - Be careful when you judge too quickly because you don't know a person's heart underneath the jewelry, tattoos, etc.
- Sometimes, people don't see Jesus because of the crowd that hangs around them
 - There are many people in the world that are seeking Jesus but can't see past the Jesus crowd
 - The real problem was not with Jesus or the crowd, but with Zaccheus' own shortness of perspective or his inability to see past people
- Luke 19:4

- Zaccheus didn't quick because he faced an obstacle; he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree so he could see Jesus because he knew Jesus was going to pass that way (he knew he was short, but he was also fast)
 - We're not limited by what we can't do, but what we choose not to do
 - If you want something bad enough, you'll push past the obstacle
 - You can't let people get in the way of your vision of Jesus
- *If you're looking for an excuse you'll find it, but if you're looking for an answer you'll also find it!*
- When you walk away, you're only hurting yourself even more than "people"
- Some encounters with Jesus depends on us getting in place before he can show up, and the place is usually hidden with some obstacles
- When you really go after God no matter the cost, God will spot you and eventually single you out for blessing (when you seek, you will find, but you must persist and seek in spite of...)
- The Jesus crowd complained Jesus was ministering to too many sinners
- We tend to look down on people whose sins are a little different than our own
- Luke 19:8
 - When repentance really comes from the heart, it will show up in our needs
 - Zaccheus said he would give half of his wealth to the poor and restore hurt to those he's taken from 4 fold
 - Reasoning: God's kindness, grace and mercy bore fruit (and leads to repentance)
 - Zaccheus' salvation was a result of God's grace
- Sometimes, we need to just pause and ask God to show us who he is (press the home button on the GPS and God will always show up and guide us to the place of true worship)
- Luke 19:10
 - When you come to the house of the Lord, you shouldn't be surprised if you encounter those who are hurting, lost, need guidance, etc.
 - There is no perfect church, but there is a perfect Lord
- Today's message is a seek and rescue message!
 - Your face has been plastered by God on every milk carton, piece of mail, and Walmart missing person sign circulating in Heaven
 - Even if you've done some things, your sins will never stop God from loving you but your sin can stop you from loving God
 - Repent and let God give you the freedom to love him back