

By His Design

Understanding
God's Design
for Sexuality

*Lesson 2:
What's
Our
Calling*

Preliminaries:

**Really important to listen
well to each other.**

**Jumping to conclusions can
cause serious hurt.**

Preliminaries:

We're not talking about an issue. **We're talking about people.** People made in God's image.

**What's
The
Problem?**





Jesus Set A High Bar

- **High Righteousness**
- **High Connection**

Done Well:

We've emphasized marriage between husband and wife.

Not Well:

We're not connecting with a group of people.

Done Well:

**We've
encouraged
each other to
honor God.**

Not Well:

**We've created
a culture of
shame.**

Done Well:

**We've created
community
environments.**

Not Well:

**We've not
created safe
places where
strugglers can
be open.**

Done Well:

**We've studied
Scripture.
Taught it.**

Not Well:

**Losing a
generation
who thinks the
Bible is good
book.**

Done Well:

**Worship
Jesus.**

Not Well:

**Not perceived
as being like
Him.**

Luke
19:1-
10

Jesus entered Jericho and made his way through the town. ² There was a man there named Zacchaeus. He was the chief tax collector in the region, and he had become very rich.

³ He tried to get a look at Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd.

⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree beside the road, for Jesus was going to pass that way.

⁵ When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name.

“Zacchaeus!” he said. “Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today.”⁶ Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy.⁷ But the people were displeased. “He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner,”

they grumbled. ⁸ Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, “I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!” ⁹ Jesus responded, “Salvation has come to this

home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham.

¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.”

What did Jesus Do?

**He Intentionally,
Publicly
Ministered to
the Zaccheaus**

- He Saw
- He Called
- He Engaged
- He Stood By
- He Ate With

What about Zacchaeus?

He just wanted to see Jesus, but he got so much more.

He was:

- **Intrigued.**
- **Determined.**
- **Surprised.**
- **Excited.**
- **Joyful.**
- **Transformed.**
- **Saved.**


What about The Crowd?

**They were
the ones who
should have
also been
joyful.**

They were:

- **Blind.**
- **Upset/Indignant.**
- **Vocal to Each Other**
- **Grumblers.**
- **Missed the Blessing.**
- **Rebuked.**

What does this mean for us?



**We must be like
Jesus - holding to
both righteousness
and connection.**

What does this mean for us?



We must take the initiative. Our love must overcome stereotypes.

What does this mean for us?



**We must see the
person, not the issue.
We are Zacchaeus.**

What does this mean for us?



We must realize the good news is for all, and because it is, it is messy. A healthy church is a messy one.

Luke 15

Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach. ² This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such sinful people—even eating with them!

³ So Jesus told them this story: ⁴ “If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, what will he do? Won’t he leave the ninety-nine others in the wilderness and go to search for the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he will joyfully

carry it home on his shoulders. ⁶ When he arrives, he will call together his friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.'