



Week 3- God's plan is Changing Hearts

Main Idea: When God works in someone's heart, you can see the difference!

Bible Story: Zacchaeus Meets Jesus (Luke 19:1-10)

Gospel Connection: Jesus' love transformed Zacchaeus from the inside out, just as He still changes hearts today through salvation. .

Memory Verse challenge: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Corporate Teaching Time (K -Gr 5)

*Set up: Table with magnifying glass on it, a shiny coin. Pictures of the 3 clues, Alyssa with bangles on and chewing gum.

ONE80 MC:

Welcome, everyone!! I hope that you are ready to look for clues. Remember that there are some words that I need you to repeat: When I say "How do we know?," I need you to say, "The Clues show". OK detectives so, How do we

know? The clues show- great job! We're detectives learning how to see evidence of God's work in our world. We might not always be able to see God directly, but we can see how He changes people's hearts. When God works in someone's heart, we can see the difference through their kind actions and choices. That reminds me of a mystery that I need to solve!

I need my hat, and my magnifying glass- there we go. Alright heres what I have for this case detectives- Are you listening carefully? Last night, I left a rusty old coin on the kitchen counter. The counter was completely empty and there was no one else around.

This morning the coin was no longer old and rusty, but all new and shiny! *Hold up a shiny coin. Something strange is going on and I need to get to the bottom of this. Could you help me solve this case detectives? Great.

Firstly I need to gather clues. The first clue I found was a gum wrapper, the second clue I found was some water spilled on the counter, and the 3rd clue I found was a coloured bangle.

Now we need to see if we can find any possible suspects or eye witnesses. I need a field detective- Is there someone who can help me?

*Call up a volunteer. Great could you please go and ask the following -Excuse me: Where were you between 4:00pm and 08:00 am this morning" We are looking for an answer to any one of our clues. If you can place anyone in the junction kitchen last night we may have our suspect.

*Child volunteer asks the adult volunteers- Alyssa is standing around chewing gum and wearing bangles- *Adlib as the volunteer is interviewing people.* If they don't ask her, subtly direct them to her. When they ask Alyssa where she was, she will say that she was at the junction to pick something up. (Ask one more volunteer to have been at the junction the night before)

Ahaa, I think we may have 2 suspects.

To Alyssa Excuse me, when you were at the junction yesterday, did you happen to see an old rusted coin on the counter.

Alyssa: NOPE (still chewing gum and wearing bangles)

ONE80 volunteer: Do you collect shiny coins?

Alyssa: nope

Ask the same questions to the other suspect.

ONE80 volunteer: Oh dear detectives, I am not sure that we are getting close to solving this case. When we can't see- We look for clues- then how do we know? The clues show! OK so lets go back to our clues

We have a gum wrapper

A bangle

Some spilled water

HMMM maybe we can try and link these clues to our suspects

(ONE80 volunteer to ask suspects if they were busy in the kitchen and happened to spill water)

Suspect 1: No, I don't this I went in the kitchen at all.

Alyssa; Nope- I didn't spill water (still chewing gum) but I was in the kitchen.

ONE80 volunteer: What were you doing in the kitchen?

Alyssa; Well, I was picking up some stuff for our girls night and I accidentally knocked over the bottle of white vinegar- man it made a mess...so I spent most of my time cleaning up the floor.

ONE80 volunteer: AHHHA detectives I think we are getting close to solve our mystery - how do we know =the clues show.

Adlib how the clues link to Alyssa and that the vinegar is actually water.

Detectives, I think we have done it! ITS all SCIENCE!!

I'll show you!

If we put an old coin into vinegar. The acid in vinegar eats through all the dirt and makes it super shiny. When Allyssa knocked over the bottle of vinegar, it must have spilled onto my coin, and turned my old rusty coin into a brand new shiny one!!!

Well done detectives- when we cant see - we look for clues. How do we know?

The clues show!!

Just as this coin is now bright and clean, thats what Jesus does to our hearts- he makes them new and clean when we trust Him.

Worship (song liked on YouTube)

1. My God is so big

Case File (Bible Story): Zacchaeus Meets Jesus

ONE80 MC: Imagine you were famous in your school, but not for good reasons— maybe for never sharing or always cutting in line. Would others want to be friends with you? Today, we'll meet a man who had a similar reputation. His name was Zacchaeus, and he was known for being selfish and unfair. But when he met Jesus, everything changed!

This lesson is all about how meeting Jesus can change our hearts. Just like Alyssa cleaned the dirty coin earlier, Jesus can clean up and change our hearts, too. Let's find out how Jesus changed Zacchaeus's heart and made him into a whole new person!

Bible Background: Before we get into the story, here's a bit about where it's from. This story is in the book of Luke, which tells us about Jesus's life—how He helped,

loved, and changed people. Luke wrote it to show us how Jesus brought hope to all kinds of people, even those who felt left out. Zacchaeus was someone who needed this kind of hope!

READ: Luke 19:1-4

Jesus was coming to the town of Jericho, and people crowded everywhere to see Him. Zacchaeus, a tax collector, wanted to see Jesus too, but he was too short to see over the crowd. He came up with an idea: he climbed a sycamore tree! From up high, he thought he'd be able to see Jesus without anyone pushing him around.

Has anyone here climbed a tree before? Imagine Zacchaeus, dressed in his fancy clothes, up in a tree, all just to see Jesus!

READ: Luke 19:5-7

Wow, Zacchaeus must have been so surprised Jesus chose to spend time with him, even though people called him a "sinner."

Why do you think Jesus would choose to be with someone like Zacchaeus? How would you feel if someone you admired chose you, even if others thought you didn't deserve it?

READ: Luke 19:8

Zacchaeus stood up during his time with Jesus and made a big announcement: he promised to give half of his wealth to the poor. He also said that if he'd cheated anyone, he would pay them back four times as much.

This was huge! Zacchaeus had spent years being greedy, but after just one meeting with Jesus, his heart was completely different. He wanted to be fair and generous.

That's what happens when Jesus works in our hearts—others can see the difference!

READ: Luke 19:9-10

Jesus told everyone that He came to find and save those who were lost, like Zacchaeus. Jesus wasn't just happy that Zacchaeus was being nice—He was glad because Zacchaeus's heart was changed for real! Jesus had brought him into God's family, and that's the biggest change of all.

READ: 2 Corinthians 5:17

This verse tells us that anyone who belongs to Jesus is a new creation. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! When we follow Jesus, our old way of living is left behind, just like Zacchaeus left behind his selfishness. Jesus makes us new, so others can see His love in us!

Let's recap: Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Jesus, and Jesus picked him out of a crowd. Even though Zacchaeus was known for being unfair, Jesus saw his heart.

Because of Jesus's love, Zacchaeus changed and wanted to live a better life. This story shows us that Jesus's love has the power to make anyone new!

GOSPEL CONNECTION: Just as Jesus's love changed Zacchaeus, He offers the same to each of us. We can't "earn" His love or work our way into His family; He

simply invites us. When we trust Him, He begins to work in our hearts, making us kinder and more generous like Zacchaeus. Jesus wants everyone to experience this

life-changing love.

BACK TO CLASSROOMS

Small group Discussion, Reflection & Prayer

Split into 2 groups- preferably boys and girls. Create an atmosphere where children feel welcome and comfortable to share. Play worship music in the background. A calm worshipful atmosphere should be created. Please prepare prayerfully for this time and do not rush it. Pass a talking object around, giving each person an opportunity to share.

ONE80 Volunteer: Great job listening, everyone! You were such awesome detectives today, paying attention to how Jesus changed Zacchaeus's heart. Jesus's love made a big difference in Zacchaeus's life, and He can do the same in our lives too!

Now, I have a few questions for us to think about together. Let's take turns answering—there are no wrong answers, so share whatever is on your mind.

K-Grade 1 QUESTIONS

1. Zacchaeus wanted so much to see Jesus that he climbed a tree. Why do you think Zacchaeus wanted to know Jesus.

2. If you were Zaccheus, what would you have done if Jesus was coming to town?
3. After zaccheus had met Jesus, he gave back the things he cheated from people. How can we show others the love of Jesus?

GRADE 2-5 QUESTIONS

1. Zacchaeus wanted so much to see Jesus that he climbed a tree. Why do you think Zacchaeus wanted to know Jesus.
2. Jesus' decision to visit Zacchaeus upset the crowd. How would you feel if Jesus chose you, even if others disagreed?
3. Zacchaeus gave back to those he cheated and helped others, showing his changed heart. How can we show Jesus is working in our hearts through kindness?

Prayer Requests:

Alright, thank you for sharing your thoughts! Now, does anyone have any prayer requests? We can pray for anything - whether it's something you're thankful for, something you're struggling with, or a prayer for someone else. We can also pray and ask God to help us to listen to Him.

*Allow time for children to share- and jot down their requests. Make sure each child's request is prayed for. As a volunteer you can lead this prayer time by asking specific children to pray for specific requests, break into pairs and pray for each other or you can pray corporately- however you feel led.

Let's pray together.

Dear Jesus, thank You for showing us today how You can change our hearts and make us more loving and kind. Thank You for the story of Zacchaeus and for the way You chose him, even though others didn't understand. Help us to show Your love to everyone around us. We pray for each of these requests and trust that You are taking care of each one. Please help us to follow You and let others see Your love in us. Amen

Craft/Activity/Game

Please watch the video tutorial in advance to Sunday (it can be found on the original webpage)

Memory Verse Challenge

Isaiah 55: 8, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord."