

HOW MUCH YOU MATTER TO GOD

How Far Would Someone Go to Rescue the One They Loved?

4 FALSE WAYS WE JUDGE OUR WORTH:

BY APPEARANCE. How do I look?

BY AFFLUENCE. What do I own?

BY ACHIEVMENT. What have I done?

BY APPROVAL. How well am I liked?

“Jesus was going through the city of Jericho. A man was there named Zacchaeus, who was the chief tax collector, and he was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but he was too short to see above the crowd. So he ran ahead to a place where Jesus would come, and he climbed a sycamore tree so he could see him. When Jesus came to that place, he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, hurry and come down! I must stay at your house today!’ Zacchaeus came down quickly and welcomed Him gladly. All the people saw this and began to complain, ‘Jesus is staying with a sinner!’ But Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, ‘I will give half of my possessions to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone, I will pay them back four times as much!’ Then Jesus said to him, ‘Salvation has come to this house today! This man is a true son of Abraham! And I, the Son of Man, have come to seek and save people like him who were lost.’” Luke 19:1-10

1. No matter how small I feel- Jesus notices me!

“...he was too short...(but) when Jesus got to the tree, He looked up...” Luke 19:3 & 5a

“...God never overlooks a single sparrow. And He pays even greater attention to you, down to the last detail - even numbering the hairs on your head!” Luke 12:6- 7 (MSG)

2. No matter who ignores me- Jesus knows me!

“...Jesus looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name ‘Zacchaeus!’ He said...” Luke 19:5b (LB)

“Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for a child she has borne? Even if that were possible, I would never forget you! See, I have engraved your name on the palms of my hand.” Isaiah 49:15-16 (NLT)

3. No matter what I’ve done- Jesus wants me!

“Jesus said, ‘Come down quickly! For I am going to be a guest in your home today!’” Luke 19:5c (LB)

“I stand at the door and knock. If you hear My voice and open the door, I will come in and eat with you, and you with Me.” Rev. 3:20 (NCV)

4. No matter what others say about me- Jesus affirms me!

“All the people saw this and began to complain, ‘Jesus is staying with a sinner!’” Luke 19:7 (NCV)

“This man is a true son of Abraham! And I, the Son of Man, have come to seek and save people like him who were lost.” Luke 19:10

HOW SHOULD I RESPOND TO JESUS?

“So he came down at once and received Him with joy.” Luke 19:6

THE RESULT

“Zacchaeus said to the Lord, ‘I’ll give half of my possessions to the poor. And if I’ve cheated anyone, I’ll give back four times as much!’” Luke 19:8

“Jesus responded, ‘Salvation has come to this home today!’” Luke 19:9 (NCV)