

SERIES: THIS IS MY STORY
Message: WHAT is the THEME?

A. Today's DECISIONS determine Tomorrow's STORIES

B. YOUR STORY IS NOT OVER!

- I want MY Story to be HIS STORY!
- HE let his IDEA of JESUS get in the Way of his ENCOUNTER WITH Jesus.

What's the THEME, the PURPOSE, the WHY in my STORY?

- Ours is TO MEET PEOPLE & GROW CLOSER TO GOD TOGETHER
- *WHY Jesus Came* (His Vision, His "WHY")
- *If HE is our AUTHOR, then OUR "WHY" will LINE UP with HIS!*

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 ^a came to seek and save those who are lost."

1. SALVATION WAS MORE FULFILLING THAN CELEBRATION

Acts 20:35 "...remember the words of the Lord Jesus: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

- when we GIVE; we GAIN ACCESS to their STORY
- We Should Find MORE Fulfillment in the Success of Others than we Do our OWN.
- Who am I Being an UNSUNG HERO For!?

2. RESTORATION WAS FOUND IN RELATIONSHIP

- *We will NEVER Find what we are Not Looking For*
- We LOOK for what we Value
- Jesus LET him BELONG then LED him to BELIEVE
- People that Don't Have Relationship; Don't Understand Relationship

3. REDEMPTION WAS PROVEN IN REPENTANCE

- The SIGN of our REDEMPTION is that we are REPENTING & RECIPROCATING that REDEMPTION in the LIVES of Others in our STORY!