

Part 3: A Small Spot April 23 & 24, 2016 Grant Fishbook, Lead Teaching Pastor

#### Small things, done over a long period of time, create the greatest impact.

#### Luke 19:1-9

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. <sup>2</sup> A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. <sup>3</sup> He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. <sup>4</sup> So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

# A small decision: I want to see Jesus.

## A small tension: Would Jesus want to see me?

<sup>5</sup> When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." <sup>6</sup> So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

## A small moment on a small spot: Connection

## **BLESS your neighbors through small connections:**

Begin in prayer

Learn their names

Engage in conversations

Seek to be intentional

Share your "God story"

## Small Wisdom

Hurt people <u>hurt</u> people.

Lost people lose people.

Found people find people.

Healthy people <u>help</u> people.

<sup>7</sup> All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

# A small snap judgment: Why is Jesus hanging with *that* person?

<sup>8</sup> But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

A small decision with big implications: If you want 1000 <u>pounds</u> of meat, raise elephants. If you want 1000 <u>tons</u> of meat, raise rabbits. If you put two elephants in a room and two rabbits in a room, in three years you will have 3 elephants and <u>476 million</u> rabbits.

- Dave Browning, Deliberate Simplicity

# A small decision with big implications: I will right a wrong and pay restitution

<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup> For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

## A big proclamation: Jesus saves a small man with big <u>salvation</u>.

#### Next Steps

Today there are a couple opportunities to give a little in order to make a big difference: 1) Our young adult ministry is offering work crews for hire to raise money for upcoming mission trips, and 2) Zari Green is gathering sponsors for her participation in the Whatcom Pregnancy Clinic's Walk for Life. Stop by their booths in the Commons today to find out more.

## **Small Group Questions**

- 1) Did you get a chance to enjoy last weekend's sunshine? What did you do?
- 2) What's a small decision you made that had big implications? Would you make a different choice at this point in your life?
- 3) Do you intentionally associate with the kinds of people Jesus did? Why or why not? How does the judgmental response of the larger group of people affect your heart?
- 4) Zacchaeus paid a big price to right a wrong. Is there a wrong you need to make right? How are you going to do it?
- 5) The goal of the entire exchange was to see salvation come to Zacchaeus. How are you blessing your neighbors so that salvation can come to their house as well?
- 6) What do you need prayer for right now and throughout the week?