



Patty Porcupine's Visit

Patty Porcupine had started coming to Mitten and Boots's Sunday school class. Mitten did not like to sit beside her, because she thought that Patty was not a nice little girl. Patty pouted about everything, and once she took Betsy Bunny's crayon. But Miss Julie wanted all the children to be friends, so she asked Mrs. Cat to invite Patty over to play with Mitten. Maybe Mitten and Patty could be good friends.

"Mitten," Mother said one day, "Patty is going to come today to have lunch and play with you."

"But, Mother," Mitten said, "Patty is not a nice girl. She wants to have her own way. She does not share. I wish she would not come to my house."

Mother sat down in the rocking chair and put Mitten on her lap. "Mitten, God

loves Patty Porcupine just as much as He loves you. He wants you to be her friend. Maybe you can help Patty see that God wants her to be nice to other people."

"I will try," said Mitten. Later that morning, Patty's mother brought her to Mitten's house. Mitten invited Patty to play in her room.

While they were playing, Mitten noticed that Patty was sharing and playing nicely. "You are being a nice friend," Mitten told Patty.

"Yes," Patty said. "I'm trying to be kind now. Miss Julie told me in Sunday school that God is happy when I am kind to others. I want to do what is right. I want to share like you do, Mitten."

Mitten and Patty played with dolls and played Sunday school. Patty pretended to be Miss Julie. Then they had soup and sandwiches for lunch. Patty had very good manners at the table.

After Patty left to go home, Mitten said to Mother, "I am glad that Patty came to my house. I have a new friend now. God helped Patty learn how to be kind, and He helped me learn how to be a friend."



Little Steps to God Zacchaeus Sees Jesus



Name _____



Zacchaeus Sees Jesus



Read Me
a Story

Luke 19:1-10

A Thought for Parents

Zacchaeus was a thief. People in the town of Jericho hated him. But Jesus saw him as a sinner who needed a Savior. Share your faith in Christ with others, and teach your child to pray for others who need the Lord.

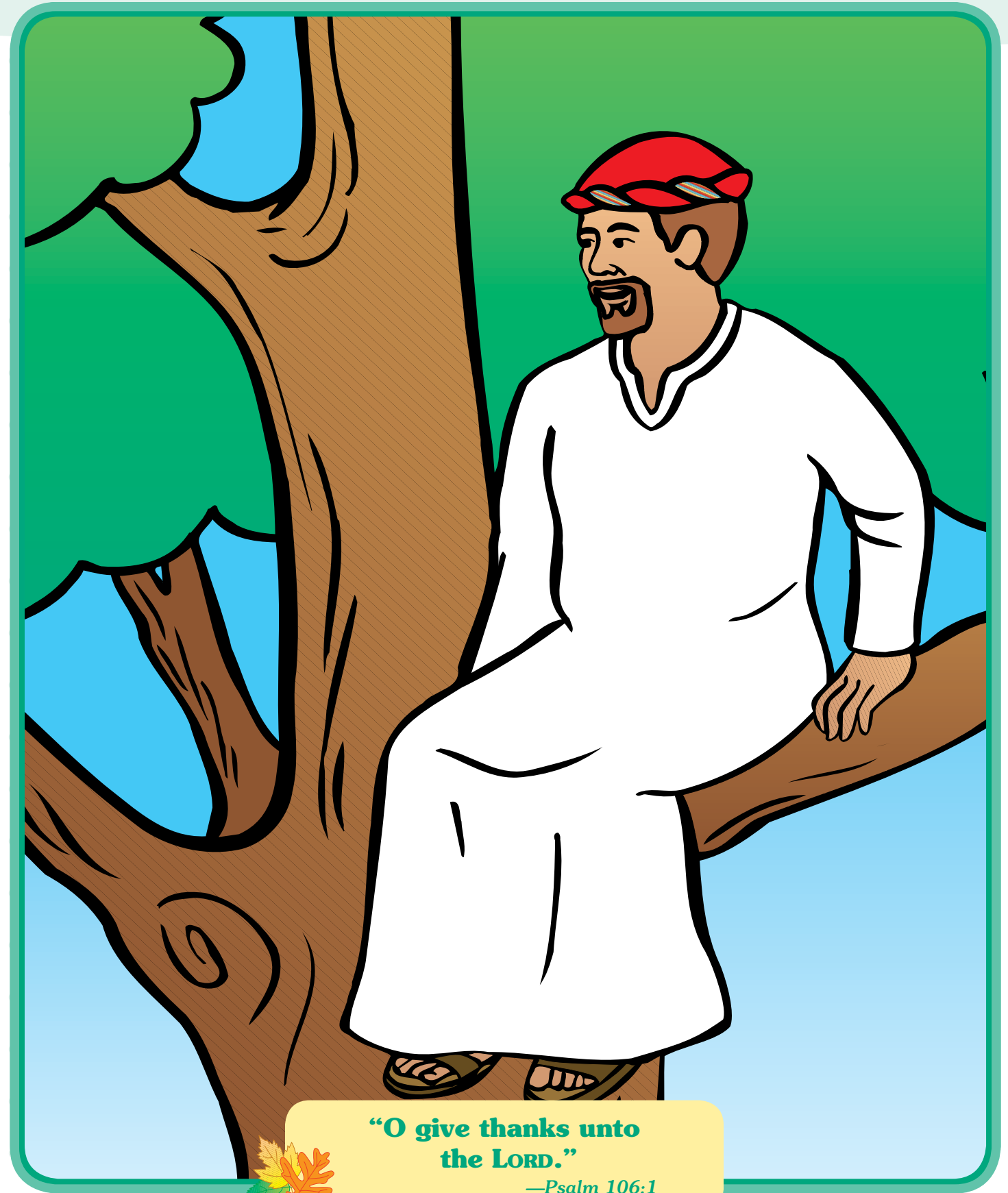
Zacchaeus lived in the town of Jericho. The people in his town were excited because they had heard that Jesus was coming through Jericho. They couldn't wait to see Him, because they knew about the miracles that He had done. The people crowded the streets waiting to see Jesus. But Zacchaeus was a very short man, and he could not see over their heads and shoulders. What could Zacchaeus do? He wanted to see Jesus, too. He tried to move to the front of the crowd, but the people wouldn't let him through. Then Zacchaeus had an idea. He saw a big sycamore tree by the street. The branches were low enough for him to reach, so Zacchaeus decided to climb the tree. Up he climbed until he was right over the street. He could see everyone, now! He looked at all the people, and then he saw the Person he was looking for. It was Jesus! And He was walking right under the tree. All of a sudden, Jesus stopped and looked up into the tree right at Zacchaeus. Then Jesus spoke to Zacchaeus. He said, "Zacchaeus, come down from that tree. I'm going to your house today!"

When the people heard Jesus talk to Zacchaeus, they were angry. They did not like Zacchaeus because he was a tax collector. When the people paid their taxes, Zacchaeus took too much money and kept some for himself. He had stolen money from them. "Why is Jesus going to his house?" the people asked. "Doesn't He know that Zacchaeus is a bad man?"

Jesus did know that Zacchaeus was a bad man. But Jesus loved Zacchaeus and wanted to help him to do right.

Zacchaeus climbed down from the tree and took Jesus to his house. Jesus probably ate lunch with Zacchaeus. While Jesus talked to Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus believed that Jesus was the Son of God. God gave him a new, clean heart that day. Zacchaeus decided to give half of his money to the poor people, and to pay back more than he had taken in taxes. He wanted everyone to know that he loved Jesus.

Color Zacchaeus in the tree



**"O give thanks unto
the LORD."**

—Psalm 106:1