



# FRONT YARD PEOPLE

Week Four | Be Present | 09.14-15.2019

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**Grow Deep Conversation Questions:** Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90 minute group gathering.

**Message Recap:** Zacchaeus had an encounter with Jesus that changed his life and those around him forever. But this only happened because Jesus took the time to see Zacchaeus - He was present in that moment - and the result was eternal.

## » Opening (2-3 minutes)

- Introductions - this is especially important if this is your first meeting and/or if there are new members in your group
- Housekeeping - clarify expectations:
  - **Announcements:** These are in your Community News email. **Please read and communicate! Encourage participation!**
  - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting.
  - **Remember there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - open your time together in prayer

## » Introduction (12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: Describe what is happening around your table during meal time. What would an onlooker observe?
- Digging Deeper: Would others consider you to be a front yard person? Why or why not?

## » Observation | Read Luke 19:1-10 (12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to this passage? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

## » Key Principle | **Choose to be present even when others are absent.** (12 minutes)

- Where are the places you find the most difficult to be present? Why do you think that is?
- In what ways can you choose to be more present and available to those in your life?

## » Great Expectation | Reread Luke 19:1-4 (12 minutes)

- Zacchaeus must have been hearing rumors about Jesus; what do you think made him so committed to seeing Jesus?

## » Great Invitation | Reread Luke 19:5-7 (12 minutes)

- When Jesus saw Zacchaeus, he invited himself over to his house. How would you respond if someone did that to you?
- What did it mean in Zacchaeus and Jesus' culture to share a meal in someone's home? How might you apply this in your home?

## » Great Celebration | Reread Luke 19:8-10 (12 minutes)

- Jesus offered Zacchaeus forgiveness at the meal, something Zacchaeus probably never thought was possible. Who in your life might find it impossible for God to forgive them?

## » Closing and Prayer | (15minutes)

- What are some ways you can be more available to your neighbors or those in the margins of your life? What is something practical you can do to serve those close to you? Who needs you to be present in their life right now? Who needs you to choose to see them? What impact might seeing them have?
- Close by praying for one another to choose to be present in the lives of those around them and take a next step toward them.