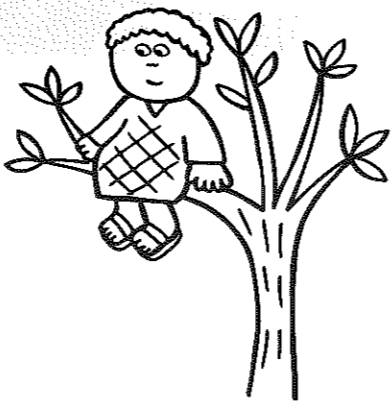


# Jesus the friend



## Read it from the Bible

**Luke 19:1-10**

'When Jesus got there, he looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, hurry down! I want to stay with you today." Zacchaeus hurried down and gladly welcomed Jesus.' Luke 19:5-6

## Tell the story

Zacchaeus was a very small man.

He was the smallest person in the whole village.

One day, Jesus came to his village. Lots of people came to see him. Zacchaeus was very excited about seeing Jesus too. But Zacchaeus could not see because he was too small. All the people in the crowd were taller than him. What could he do?

Just then he looked up, saw a tree and had an idea. Quickly, Zacchaeus climbed up the tree to see Jesus.

Jesus came into the village and saw all the crowds. As he walked along he looked up, saw the tree and – what a surprise! There was Zacchaeus! "Come down," said Jesus. "I want to come to your house. I want to be your friend."

Quickly, Zacchaeus climbed down the tree to see Jesus.

Jesus went to Zacchaeus' house.

And Zacchaeus became Jesus' friend.

## Talk to God

Thank you, God, that you know all about us and you want to be our friend.

## Use the picture

**1** You can use the picture as an introduction to the Bible story or to help you review the story together.

**2** Chat about all the places where you meet and make friends, such as nursery, school, church, your group, at gym club and so on. Ask if anyone has met a friend when they were up in a tree!

**3** Give out the Bible-story pictures and explain that this is what happened to Jesus and Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus was up in a tree, trying to see Jesus. Jesus saw him and asked him to come down – and very soon they were friends!

Jesus the friend Luke 19:1-10

