

THE SUNDAY PAPER

Year C
PROPER 26
TRACK 1

Last Sunday's Gospel was a story that Jesus told about a Pharisee and a tax-collector. This week, our Gospel reading tells what happened when a real tax-collector met Jesus!

JESUS AND ZACCHAEUS

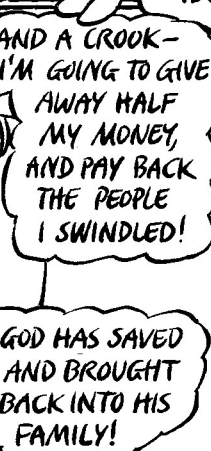
Luke 19:1-10

ZACCHAEUS WAS A CHIEF TAX-COLLECTOR. HE WAS A LIAR AND A CHEATER! HE MADE PEOPLE PAY MORE THAN THEY REALLY OWED, AND HE KEPT THE EXTRA. HE GOT RICH!

ONE DAY, JESUS CAME THROUGH JERICHO, WHERE ZACCHAEUS LIVED!



SO HE RAN AHEAD, AND CLIMBED A TREE!



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Zacchaeus was not a nice person. The people in Jericho did not like him, because he cheated them and hurt them, and he didn't even seem to feel sorry.

Zacchaeus had no friends. He must have been surprised when Jesus stopped and asked to come to his house. Perhaps he suddenly felt ashamed. Or maybe he somehow understood that Jesus loved him even though he did bad things.

Even when people lie and cheat, like Zacchaeus, Jesus loves us and is always ready to forgive us.

