



14th Story

Zacchaeus

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– 14th Story –

NAR Jesus and his disciples were going into the city of Jericho. There was a crowd of people following them, and as they were entering the city, a blind beggar asked what was going on.

Beggar Why is there so much noise? What's happening? Who's here?

Crowd person It's Jesus of Nazareth. He's coming into Jericho.

Beggar Jesus? Teacher! Lord! Please, have mercy on me!

NAR When those who were at the front of the crowd heard the blind beggar calling for Jesus, they told him to stop. They didn't want Jesus to be bothered by a blind beggar. But he yelled even more loudly.

Beggar Son of David! Please! Have mercy on me!

NAR Jesus had heard the calls, and commanded for the man to be brought to him.

Jesus What do you want me to do for you?

Beggar Lord, I want to be able to see.

Jesus May it be done. Your faith has healed you.

NAR As soon as Jesus had said this, the blind man began to see! He was amazed and began to praise God and follow Jesus. When the other people in the crowd saw what had just happened, they too began to praise God!

Then Jesus and his disciples continued into Jericho with the crowd following behind. In the town of Jericho there lived a man named Zacchaeus. He was one of the chief tax collectors and so was very rich, and also disliked by most people.

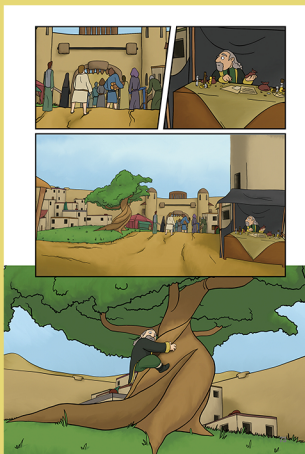
Zacchaeus was also a very short man.

As Jesus and his disciples were passing by, Zacchaeus saw the large crowds, and wondered what it meant.

Crowd people Jesus! Jesus! Look, there he is!

Zacchaeus Jesus?! Wow! I want to see. Um...excuse me. Pardon me. Could I come through please?

NAR Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, but because he was so short, he couldn't get past the crowd.





- Zacchaeus** Excuse me, I'd like to get by now. Oh.... I want to see Jesus, but there's no way I can.. I'm too short. What can I do?
- NAR** As he was thinking how he could see Jesus, Zacchaeus saw a tall sycamore tree ahead in the direction Jesus and his disciples were going. So he decided to try and climb it.
- Zacchaeus** Sigé. Kaya ko ito. Kaya ko ito! Hindi... ko magagawa ito!
- Zacchaeus** Okay. I can do this. I can do this! I can.....not do this! Aaaah-hh!
- NAR** Zacchaeus was getting frustrated that he could not climb the tree to see Jesus better, and was worrying that if he didn't get up there soon, he would miss his chance.
- Zacchaeus** This time, I'm getting up there.
- NAR** When Zacchaeus finally made it to the top, Jesus had come to the tree. He then looked up, and said to Zacchaeus...
- Hesus** Zacchaeus! Come down here at once. I must stay at your house today!
- Zacchaeus** Huh!? Uh....uh....Wha-? Yes! Yes!
- NAR** Zacchaeus was very surprised that Jesus saw him, but even more surprised that Jesus knew who he was! He wondered how Jesus knew his name because they had never met before! But when Jesus called him, he quickly climbed down from the tree and led Jesus and his disciples to his house gladly.
- When people saw that Jesus was going to Zacchaeus's house, they began to talk to themselves.
- Crowd person 1** What? He's going to Zacchaeus's house?!
- Crowd** Zacchaeus? He's a tax collector! He's a sinner!
- Crowd person 2** Jesus must not know.makasalanan!
- Crowd person 1** Or maybe he does and just doesn't care.
- NAR** Zacchaeus had been climbing down while the people were saying these things, but had heard them all. He felt sad because people said these things about him, and so when he came to Jesus, he said....
- Zacchaeus** My Lord. I don't know why you want to come to my house today, but I want to tell you something here and now. I will give half of all that I own to those who are poor. And if I have cheated anybody out of anything through taxes, I will pay it back. I will pay back four times the amount I took.

Crowd

<gasp> Wow! Oh my!

Jesus

Zacchaeus, I am very proud of you. I came to you today because the Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them. Know that today you have been saved.

“The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them.”

Luke 19:10 NlrV

