

## **“YOU ARE BEING WATCHED”**

*“Our vision is to bring people to Jesus, that through the power of the Holy Spirit they may experience the life-changing power of God’s love and demonstrate this love to others”*

### LOVE MUST BE DEMONSTRATED

- Love is more than just words, it should result in actions (1Jn. 3:18).
- Today we will take the story of Zacchaeus and discover what it can teach us about demonstrating God’s love to others.

### THE STORY OF ZACCHAEUS (Lk. 19:1-10)

- Zacchaeus was very rich. He had all that money could buy to make his life enjoyable ... yet something was missing.
  - We should never believe the deception that people who seem to have “everything” are satisfied and fulfilled. Success and money cannot satisfy.
- Zacchaeus had somehow heard about Jesus (the blind beggar?) possibly from his circle of friends, “tax collectors and sinners” (Lk. 15:1-2). He wanted to see Jesus.
  - People in the world are watching us. They want to see Jesus in the way we live and love.
- Jesus gave Zacchaeus His undivided attention and called him by name.
  - People want to see that we care about them personally.
- Jesus tells Zacchaeus that He must be a guest in his home. This communicates volumes to Zacchaeus. He is filled with joy!
  - Zacchaeus is living a life of shame in his culture and is despised.
    - ♣ Jesus treats him with honor and dignity by coming to his home.
    - ♣ Religious people never ate with sinners.
    - ♣ Jesus shows the Kingdom of God is open to sinners.
    - ♣ Jesus values Zacchaeus.

- We should value people the way God values them.
- Jesus' love so impacts Zacchaeus, that his heart is changed (vs. 8).
  - The love of Jesus demonstrated through you might be the bridge that enables others to come to Jesus.

### THE MISSION

- In this story we are reminded that Jesus' mission was to, "...seek and save those who are lost."
  - We have been given the same mission. We carry out this mission by demonstrating the love of Jesus to others.