

**Mar. 24 - Scripture:** Luke 19: 1-27

*Observation:* There were two stories in the above passage. The first was about Zacchaeus the tax collector. He was a "notorious sinner" according to the town. Jesus announced to the town that He would be a guest at Zacchaeus' house. The townspeople were outraged that Jesus would choose the most unworthy person. However, Zacchaeus humbled himself before Jesus, announcing he would give half his money to the poor, and pay back all he had cheated four times over.

The second story was about the king giving three men money to invest for him. The first used to the opportunity to gain 10 times more money, the second 5 times more money and the third, fearing the king would take his profits, did nothing with it. The king rewarded both the first and second man and punished the third because he refused to do anything.

*Application:* Jesus showed by example of Zacchaeus that even the most unworthy (in the eyes of others) can be humbled and saved. They can change to become worthy.

In the second story, it shows, if given the tools to grow, a person can utilize those tools to do something, and gain something in return or they can sit and do nothing, and gain nothing in return.

*Prayer:* God, in such a time as this, with natural and financial despair burdening so many, we turn to you as our rock. Your strength and love will help us endure. We thank you for your unconditional love, though we may turn away at times, you never do. You never leave us. You are always with us. You are our rock, our savior. Amen.

*Writer:* My name is Sabrina Schook. My husband and I have 4 children and have only been a part of Eastminster for about a month. We are still growing in our spiritual walk as fairly new Christians. We look forward to growing with the Eastminster family.