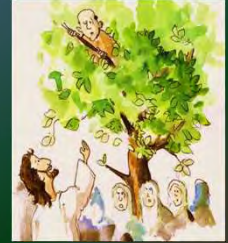




### Luke 19:1-10

“Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.



Read by David Marz

### Luke 19:1-10

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.’ So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

All the people saw this and began to mutter, ‘He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.’

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord,



Read by David Marz

### Luke 19:1-10

‘Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.’

Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.’”



Read by David Marz

### Cichlids



### Cichlids

- Majority come from 3 lakes in east Africa
- Officially, there are 1,732 known species
- Energetic swimming (especially when someone walks near the tank)
- “Substrate sifting” (burrowing to make nests in the substrate)
- Mouthbrooding (Females will sometimes hold their eggs in their mouth)
- Territorial
- Voracious eaters!



**“They are doing their best  
to train you to feed them  
whenever you walk by!”**

Voracious eaters!



**But there’s something about  
their unyielding search for  
food that should challenge us!**

**Let’s go back to Zacchaeus...**

Voracious eaters!



### **Back to Zacchaeus...**

*“Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy.”*

**Wealthy, but at a cost!**

*Mark 8:37*

**“For what could any person give in  
exchange for his soul?”**

### **Back to Zacchaeus...**

- Desperate to see Jesus
- Sets himself in the path “since Jesus was coming that way!”
- Climbs a sycamore tree

### **Jesus...**

- Looks up!
- Calls him by name!
- Declares...  
“I must abide with you!”



**Seeking!  
Spiritual Hunger!  
^ Desperation!**

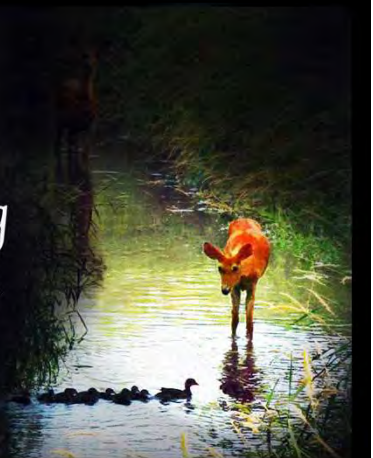
**Prerequisites for  
spiritual  
satisfaction!**

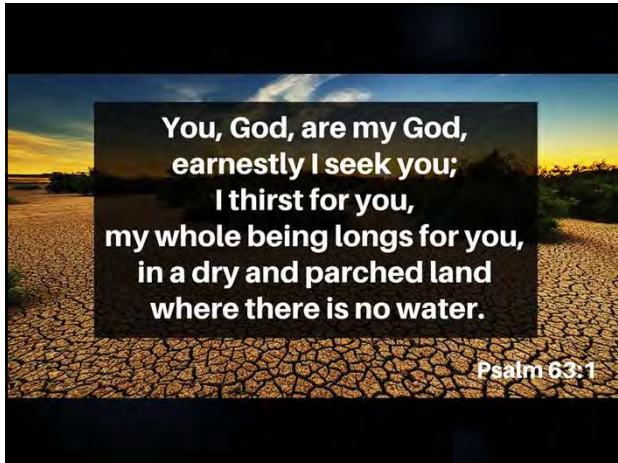


As the  
deer longs  
for streams  
of water,

**so I long  
for you,  
O God.**

-Psalm 42:1





How “hungry” are you?

Or perhaps...

“How full are you?”

Do we approach the...

Person...

Presence...

Plans...

...of God ½-heartedly?

...with disinterest...

or simply as “a necessity?”

Are we as guilty as the Israelites  
of saying...

“There’s nothing to eat but this manna!”

Numbers 11:6

Sometimes our spiritual hunger  
is as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Thanksgiving meal!

Zacchaeus...

Trying to see Jesus... with no success!

3 strikes... but not out!

- Desperate!
- Presses on... presses in!  
Presses beyond!
- Leaves the crowd...
- ... to position himself where  
Jesus was “passing by!”


And he saw Jesus!



**And he saw Jesus!**

**But even more...**

**Jesus saw Zacchaeus!**



And in the midst of the crowd, only Zacchaeus was called by name!

**Jesus saw Zacchaeus!**

*"He has gone to be the guest of a sinner!"*

**PRAISE GOD!**

This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: **"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"**


*- and I am the worst of them all.*

1 Timothy 1:15

**As paramedics and emergency responders who push the crowds to the side...**

**Jesus gives His attention to the needy...  
... to the desperate!**

**Mark 15**



**As paramedics and emergency responders who push the crowds to the side...**

**Jesus gives His attention to the needy...  
... to the desperate!**

**Matthew 15 -**

**The Faith of the Canaanite Mother**

<sup>21</sup> Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.

<sup>22</sup> A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly."

<sup>23</sup> Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us."

<sup>24</sup> He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel!"

<sup>25</sup> The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said.


<sup>26</sup> He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs."

<sup>27</sup> "Yes, Lord," she said. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

Then Jesus answered and said to her, O woman, **great is your faith: be it to you even as you will. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.**

Matthew 15:28



**Matthew 15 -**

**Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand**

<sup>29</sup> Jesus left there and went along the Sea of Galilee. Then he went up on a mountainside and sat down. <sup>30</sup> Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet, and he healed them. <sup>31</sup> The people were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.

<sup>32</sup> Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way."

<sup>33</sup> His disciples answered, "Where could we get enough bread in this remote place to feed such a crowd?"

<sup>34</sup> "How many loaves do you have?" Jesus asked.

"Seven," they replied, "and a few small fish."

<sup>35</sup> He told the crowd to sit down on the ground. <sup>36</sup> Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and they in turn to the people. <sup>37</sup> They all ate and were satisfied. <sup>38</sup> Toward the disciples picked up seven baskets or eleven pieces that were left over. <sup>39</sup> The number of those who ate was four thousand men, besides women and children.

<sup>40</sup> After Jesus had sent the crowd away, he got into the boat and went to the vicinity of Magadan.

**I am the Bread of Life!**

**John 6:32-35**

**This is My body, given for you!**

**Luke 22:19**

- ✓ To satisfy your every need.
- ✓ To connect us to the love of God!
- ✓ To cleanse, heal, & restore!

## Matthew 15 -

## Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand

<sup>18</sup> Jesus left there and went along the Sea of Galilee. Then he went up on a mountainside and sat down. <sup>19</sup> Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; and he healed them. <sup>21</sup> The people were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.

<sup>22</sup> Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way."

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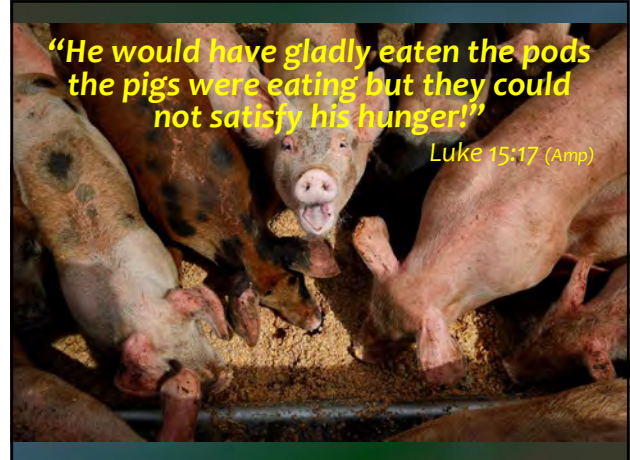
"Seven," they replied, "and a few small fish."

<sup>25</sup> He told the crowd to sit down on the ground. <sup>26</sup> Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and they in turn to the people.

<sup>27</sup> They all ate and were satisfied. Afterward the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. <sup>28</sup> The number of those who ate was four thousand men, besides women and children.

<sup>29</sup> After Jesus had sent the crowd away, he got into the boat and went to the vicinity of Magadan.

**Hunger  
grows as we  
stay with  
Him!**



**"The poor will eat and be satisfied..."**

Psalm 22:26

**"They sought of Him, and He brought them quail; He fed them well with the bread of heaven..."**

Psalm 105:40

**"I will refresh the weary and refresh everyone who languishes."**

Jeremiah 31:25

"And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone." Matthew 14:23



Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Matthew 5:6

**Kingdom Principle!**

**Are you hungry?**

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Matthew 5:6

**Would you scale a mountain... or "climb a tree" to fellowship with Him and to eat at His table?**

**Would you scale a mountain...  
or "climb a tree" to fellowship  
with Him and to eat at His table?**