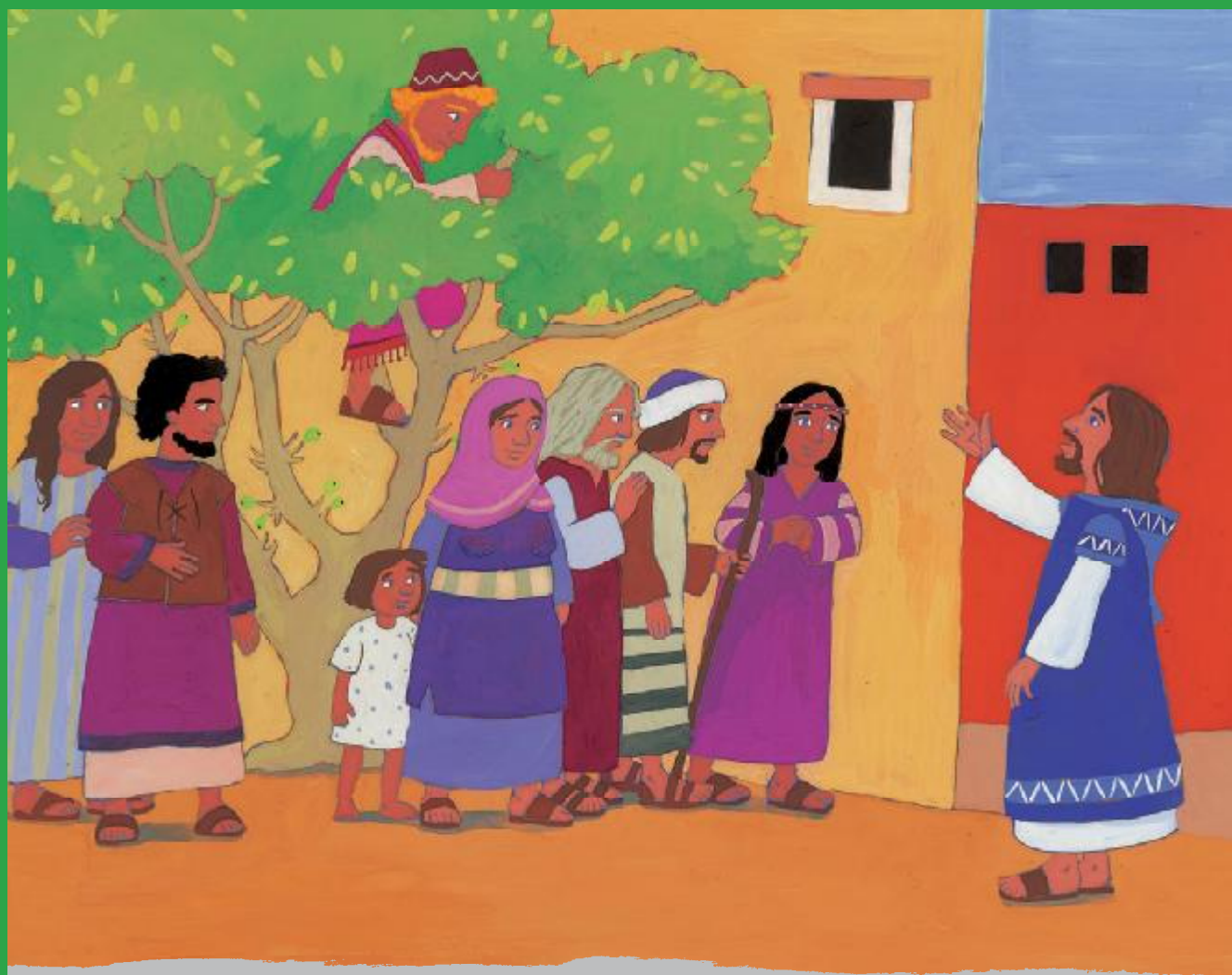


ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS  
CAN BRING ABOUT A CHANGE OF HEART



# 9

## ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS CAN BRING ABOUT A CHANGE OF HEART

### EXERCISE 1



Allocate roles and read the following.

#### At a tax-collection post

Father: I have made many bowls and pitchers. Tomorrow I will go into the city  
(a potter from the country) to sell them there.

Narrator: The following morning the potter loads up his donkey and gets going.  
His son, Baruch, joins him. After they have gone part of the way,  
the father's face becomes more and more anxious.

Baruch: How come you are so quiet?

Father: I am worried. I am thinking about the duties and taxes.

Baruch: Duties and taxes? What are they?

Father: The tax collector wants to have money if you bring something into the city.

Baruch: Also for our bowls and pitchers?



Father: Of course, the Romans want it that way. The tax collectors themselves also make good money in the process. They take much more from us than the Romans demand. The remainder they pocket for themselves and become quite rich.

Narrator: Baruch and his father reach the tax-collection post.

Tax collector: What do you have to declare?

Father: Pitchers and bowls.

Tax collector: Your wares are of a good quality. Pay me 50 denarii!  
Then I will let you into the city.

Narrator: Baruch looks fearfully at his father. 50 denarii are an incredibly large sum of money. The family could live on that for a long time.<sup>1</sup>

The potter pulls the head of the donkey around and wants to go back out of the city gate.

Father: I do not have that much.

Tax collector: How much do you have?

Narrator: The potter empties the contents of his leather pouch onto the table. There are exactly 20 denarii. The publican pockets them. Baruch and his father go on sadly.

The tax collector goes into the house to his wife.

Tax collector: I just made a good deal. I took 20 denarii from a man who wants to sell pitchers and bowls in Jericho. He has no idea what he actually would have had to pay. The Romans would have demanded only 5 denarii for his goods.

So 15 denarii belong to us!

Wife of the tax collector: Ha, ha! You certainly took him for a ride! You are really clever!

<sup>1</sup> A denarius was the equivalent of a day's wages for a labourer. 50 denarii would have been equivalent to two months' wages.

# 9

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## EXERCISE 2



Look at the pictures and read the texts!

### Zacchaeus



1

Jesus came to Jericho and went through the city. A man named Zacchaeus lived there. He was the chief tax collector and very rich. He wanted to see what Jesus looked like. But being short he could not see Him for the crowd.



3

So he climbed down quickly, and joyfully received Jesus at his home. When the people saw this they were outraged and said, "He has stopped off at the house of a sinner." But Zacchaeus turned to the Lord and said, "Lord, half of my fortune I want to give to the poor, and, if I demanded too much from someone, I will give him back fourfold."



2

That is why he ran ahead and climbed into a sycamore tree to be able to see Jesus who had to pass by there. When Jesus came to the spot, He looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly! Because today I must be your guest."



4

Write the first seven words of what Jesus said according to Luke 19: 9 here!

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