

Seek What Jesus Seeks

Ponder: What is really important?

Scripture: “not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved” (1 Cor. 10:33 NKJV).

Like most first-century tax collectors, Zacchaeus had been a selfish cheater. No wonder the people grumbled when Jesus went home with him! Would a truly righteous man hang out with such a scoundrel? But Jesus’ influence triggered a radical change in this man whom everyone loved to hate. He pledged to give half his goods to the poor and to restore fourfold everything he had wrongfully taken (Lk. 19:8). What a powerful example of Jesus’ purpose! “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost” (Lk. 19:10).

Jesus values every soul, seeking any who stray. “If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying?” (Matt. 18:12). Our Good Shepherd sought us when we were lost. As His disciples, we ought to follow His example, cherishing each and every person so much that we seek their salvation.

Another parable illustrated the same point: “Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and seek carefully until she finds it?” (Lk. 15:8). Just as she would go to considerable trouble to locate the lost coin, Jesus went to tremendous trouble to save us. Paul appreciated this and imitated his Lord, “not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved” (1 Cor. 10:33).

The world floods us with desirable things to seek. Some are sinful, but even “good” things can distract us from whole-hearted service to the Lord. Let His purpose be ours! Let us seek the things He seeks!

Hymn: “Oh To Be Like Thee”

Prayer: Loving Father, keep us from being distracted by the world’s charms. Help us to seek the things Jesus seeks. In His name, Amen.