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I look at Jesus. What do I see in his face? What do I see in the face of Zacchaeus as he joins Jesus?

I'm beginning to understand that Zacchaeus is seen as a sinner because he's the chief tax-collector. He's a rich man as a result. What am I feeling about the situation?

I catch up with Jesus as he walks with Zacchaeus toward his home. I listen as Zacchaeus speaks with Jesus. Something is happening. Zacchaeus is talking about giving half his possessions to the poor. If he has cheated anyone, he will pay them back four-fold. What am I experiencing as I listen? What do I see on the face of Zacchaeus? What do I see on the face of Jesus?

Then, I hear Jesus tell Zacchaeus, "Today salvation has come to this house, because you, too, are a son of Abraham." Then he speaks to all of us, "The Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

4. Affections

As I have watched and listened, what is Jesus saying to my heart? How is he touching me? Stay with Jesus for awhile.

5. Resolution

What concrete resolve can I make for today so that my prayer will change the way I live in some real way?

6. TOP-Off (Thanksgiving / Offering / Petition)

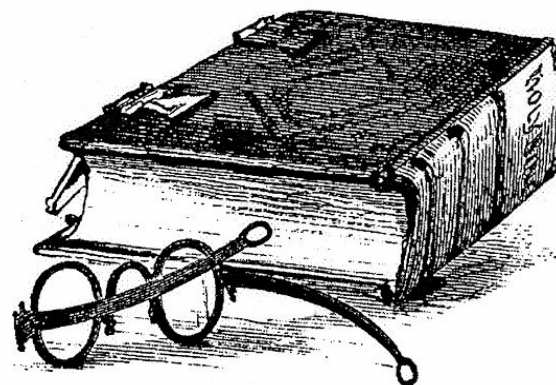
- a. Give thanksgiving to God for this experience of calm.
- b. Offer to God your resolution of
- c. Ask God to give you the grace to accomplish this.

7. Spiritual Bouquet

Think of a phrase, word, or image that you can take with you throughout this day which will help you to stay focused on this experience and your resolution.

PRAYER OF THE HEART

A SALESIAN METHOD FOR MEDITATING



Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

Luke 19:1-9

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MEDITATION: A SALESIAN METHOD

1. Remote Preparation

- a. Tranquility of spirit/center yourself
- b. Scripture reading

2. Immediate Preparation

- a. Remind yourself of God's presence
- b. Ask for God's inspiration

3. Considerations

- a. Take an incident in Jesus' life
- b. Use your imagination
- c. Place yourself in the scene (*Recreate the moment*)
- d. Follow the Spirit's lead
- e. Act like the bee (*Get as much nectar as possible*)

4. Affections

- a. Devout movements of the mind
- b. Devout movements of the heart

5. Resolution

- a. Be specific
- b. Must be do-able (*Is it practical, concrete, measurable?*)
- c. Practice a self-check (*Did you do what you resolved to do?*)

6. Top - Off

- a. Thanksgiving
- b. Offering
- c. Petition (*Ask God to see you through the day*)

7. Spiritual Bouquet

- a. Take a phrase or thought upon which to meditate
- b. Make the entire day an extension of prayer
- c. Integrate the experience of prayer and daily life

1. Remote Preparation

- a. Tranquility of Spirit/center yourself (*Relaxation techniques*)
- b. Read passage from Luke 19. 1-9

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 being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

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, "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 what was lost."

2. Immediate Preparation

- a. Ask for a deeper awareness of God's Presence
- b. Ask for God's inspiration

3. Considerations

I join Jesus and a crowd as they enter the town of Jericho. We are walking down the main street of the town. Everyone is excited that Jesus is here.

Suddenly Jesus stops and looks up. He sees a man sitting in a tree. He calls to the man, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." Who is this man? I look at the faces of the crowd and they seem surprised. There's a lot of murmuring among the crowd about Jesus' going to be a guest of a sinner.

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