



Forgiveness



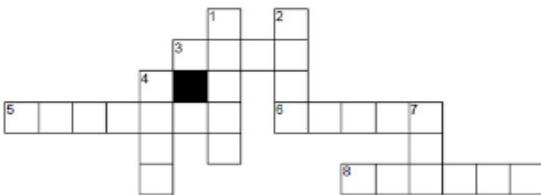
Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

Zacchaeus was a little man. He was a tax collector and had become rich by making others pay lots of money in taxes to the Romans and to him. He didn't have many friends. When Zacchaeus heard Jesus was in town, he wanted to see him. But Zacchaeus was short and Jesus was always surrounded by a crowd. So Zacchaeus decided to run ahead of the crowd and climb a sycamore tree. From there he could watch for Jesus. As Jesus drew closer, he held his breath excitedly until Jesus stopped right beneath his tree. Jesus looked straight up at him! "Zacchaeus," said Jesus with a smile, "come on down. I want to stay at your house today!" Zacchaeus hopped down. "You are welcome at my house, Jesus," he said with a huge grin. But others grumbled, muttering to each other. "Why does Jesus want to go home with the rich, cheating tax collector? He isn't good enough for Jesus to come and stay at his house." Zacchaeus heard what the people were saying about him and he wanted to put things right. He turned to Jesus and said, "Master, here and now, I promise to give half of my money to the poor. If I have cheated anyone in taxes, I will pay them back four times that amount." Zacchaeus wanted to turn over a new leaf because Jesus believed that everyone deserved a new start and now Zacchaeus believed it too!

Bible story based on Luke 19:2-10

A Lesson in Forgiveness

Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little." Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." Luke 7:47-48
Puzzle is based on Luke 7:36-50



ACROSS

- 3. To like something or someone very much
- 5. To excuse or pardon someone for a fault
- 6. Drops of liquid which flow from the eye when a person cries
- 8. To cross out or erase

DOWN

- 1. The bills and coins which we use to buy things
- 2. Something owed, such as money
- 4. To touch with the lips to show affection, or as a greeting
- 7. To break God's law

LOVE	TEARS	MONEY	KISS
DEBT	CANCEL	FORGIVE	SIN

What is forgiveness?

We forgive because we are forgiven. Forgiveness cannot be given or received unless it is asked for, and the asking must be genuine and from the heart. Too often 'sorry' is said very easily, implying: 'All I need to do is say I'm sorry and everything will be OK'. Real repentance demands that we take what we have done wrong with the utmost seriousness and have a deep desire not to do it again.

**IT TAKES A STRONG
PERSON TO SAY SORRY,
AND AN EVEN
STRONGER PERSON
TO FORGIVE**

Bob , Amelia, Kacey and Demi.

