

## **Living with Limits**

### ***The No Account Accountant***

*You never get a second chance to make a good first impression. Yet everyone deserves a second chance and the third time's a charm. Life's funny that way. Every one of those statements is absolutely true, but they're also each a contradiction of the others. Truth is, getting a clean-slate second chance is nearly impossible. Our reputation precedes us. It goes before us. "The best indicator of future behaviour is past performance," as the HR axiom goes. Your past is one of the most limiting factors of your life ... your past is a literal anchor around your neck. So ... why even try to be better?*

Luke 19:1–10

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is what people think and say about you behind your back.
2. Your \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ are the foundations for your name.
3. God doesn't expect you to be \_\_\_\_\_, but God *does* expect you to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ can be rebuilt.

### ***My Count Me In! Commitments***

- I'll be here next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- I'll ask a relative, a friend, and a coworker what my reputation really is
- I'll begin rebuilding my reputation by committing to Jesus and by making amends as required
- I want to explore what it means to be a part of Raytown Christian Church and will attend today's Getting Acquainted Luncheon

### **Additional Notes**

## Digging Deeper, Going Further

### *Living with Limits: The No Account Accountant*

**Scripture:** Luke 19:1–10

**Introduction:** In the West, our given names are primarily a designation so we can tell one person from another. Karens and Carls, Dougs and Dianes help us to differentiate those we meet. But in many cultures, and especially in ancient cultures, your name said something about you – it meant something. One of the Proverbs reminds its readers that a good name is better than silver and gold. Today, we'd call that a reputation. The difference between a "name" and a "reputation" is that it's sometimes easier to change your name than it is to share your reputation.

1. If you don't know, do a Google search to find out what your name means. (And if you have an original name, decide for yourself what you think it should mean.)
2. How closely do you resemble your name's meaning? Why do you say so?
3. Read Luke 19:1–4. Why do you think Zacchaeus was so desperate to see Jesus?
4. Read 19:5–7. What is the significance that Jesus not only knew Zacchaeus's name, but called him by name?
5. The name Zacchaeus means innocent and pure. Dr. Bill said that Zacchaeus earned a "new name." What did he do to "earn" his public reputation?
6. Read 19:8–10. Do you think Zacchaeus' public reputation changed because of his extravagant response to Jesus?
7. During dinner, Jesus tells the parable about the investment of funds (often called the parable of the talents or minas). What do you think he was trying to tell Zacchaeus through that story?

***Next Week: Living With Limits: Life Chains***

***Who will you be inviting to worship with you this week?***