

Week 2, Day 1:

There was a man there named Zacchaeus. He was the chief tax collector in the region, and he had become very rich. He tried to get a look at Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree beside the road, for Jesus was going to pass that way. When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. "Zacchaeus!" he said. "Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today." Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy.

Luke 19:2-6

At this point in the Christmas season, most of us are scrambling to buy and wrap last-minute gifts. We're up to our ears in cookies; we've got stockings to stuff, and parties to attend.

But what if the most important thing that happens this Christmas isn't something we do, but a question we ask? Over the course of the next couple days we will examine three reasons Christmas is the Perfect Time to Invite Someone to Church.

Christmas spirit already has people doing things they wouldn't normally do.

Only at Christmas do we see penny-pinchers digging in their pockets for change to give to the man merrily ringing the bell outside the store. For the sake of Christmas, even our most dysfunctional family members will gather around the table. And even if we aren't sure we like eggnog, we'll give it a try because, well, it's Christmas.

<u>Research shows</u> most people would come to church if someone they knew just asked, and people are more receptive to going to church at Christmas than other times of year.

Blame it on the infectious amounts of holiday cheer, but more than any other time of year people are willing to try something new, making it one of the best opportunities to invite someone to church.

PRAY:

Heavenly Father, give me your courage to take a step with investing in others for You. Help me to see individuals in my life to invest in.