

## READ IT

This week's Bible story is

### **Zacchaeus**

from Luke 19:1-10.

#### **When we meet Jesus, we are changed!**

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Taxes
- Zacchaeus
- Tree
- Jesus
- Dinner

Zacchaeus' neighbors despised him for being a part of Roman domination. As a chief tax collector, Zacchaeus had contracted for the right to collect revenues in the district. He did so unfairly and to his own advantage.

#### **Read the whole story together in the Bible!**

*Spark Story Bible* pages 400-405

*Spark Bible* pages 1158-1159

#### **Family Prayer**

Say this prayer around a tree.

**Thank you, Jesus, for loving everyone. Help us to remember that your love is big and without exception. Help us to love in the same way. AMEN.**

## TALK ABOUT IT



### **Family Conversations**

- 1** What is your favorite meal to make and share when you have a friend over?
- 2** What would you make for dinner if Jesus came to your house?
- 3** When you don't like a certain person, how do you deal with them?
- 4** Brainstorm together all the different ways your family cares for others. Include big and little things, money given and time shared, random acts of kindness, and planned giving of yourselves and/or your resources. Is there another way you can care for others?



#### **Eye Spark**

When you see a tree, think about what it would be like to sit in it and watch for Jesus.



#### **Ear Spark**

When you hear coins jingle, remember Zacchaeus' promise to give back more than he had collected from his neighbors.

## LIVE IT

### **For families to do together**

Make dinner for Jesus! Invite some friends, choose a menu, share the work, decorate a wonderful table and then leave a seat for Jesus — an empty chair at your table to remind you that Jesus is always present whenever people gather together.

### **For younger kids**

Go to a park near your house and climb as high as you safely can on the playground equipment. How far can you see? Do you think you are as high as Zacchaeus was in the tree?

### **For older kids**

Go tree climbing! Take an adult and make sure you are safe, but try your hand at climbing up a tree. How far can you see? How high do you think Zacchaeus climbed up the tree?



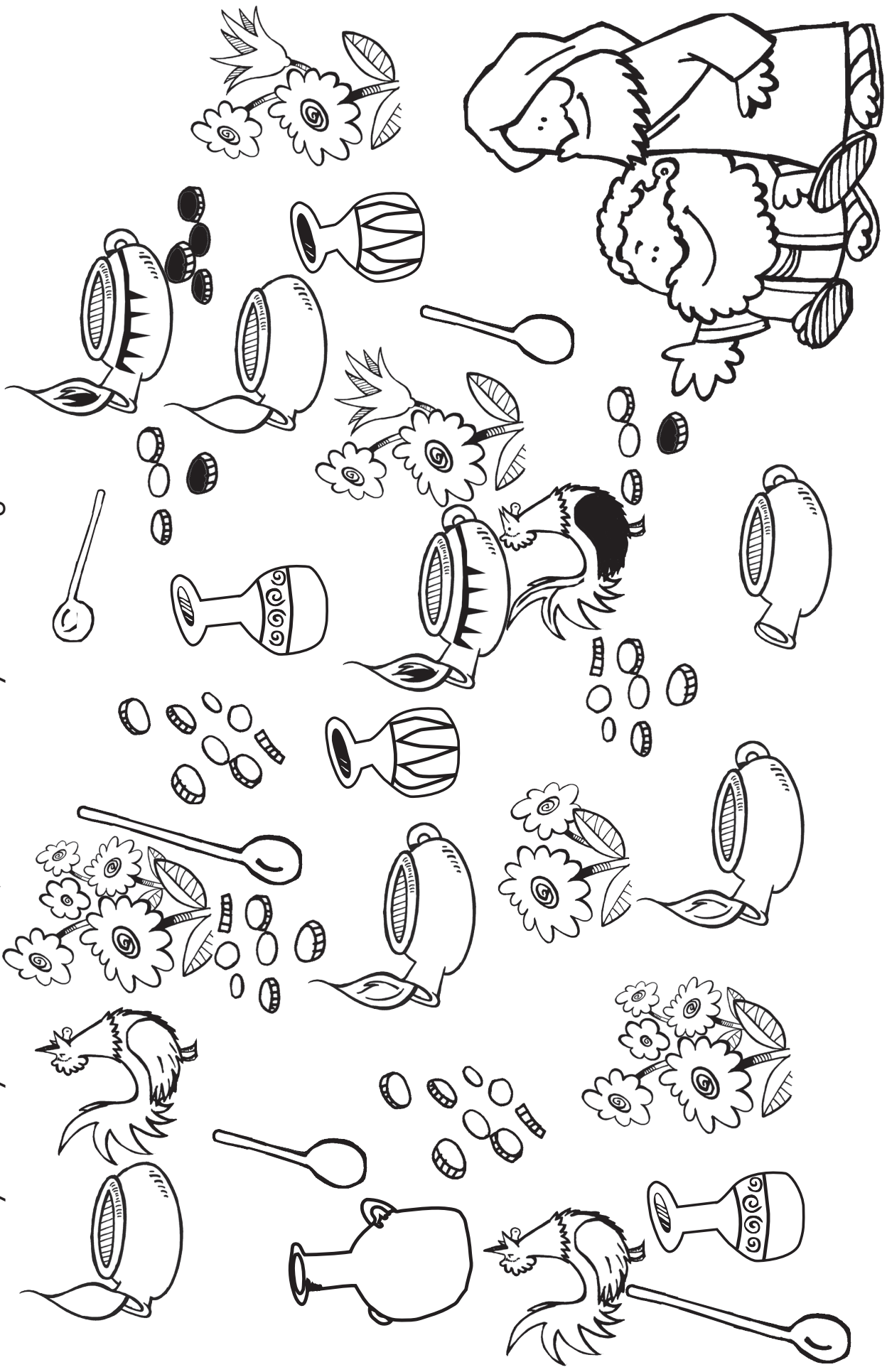
# Zacchaeus



“This way, Jesus,” said Zacchaeus. “This is the way to my house.”

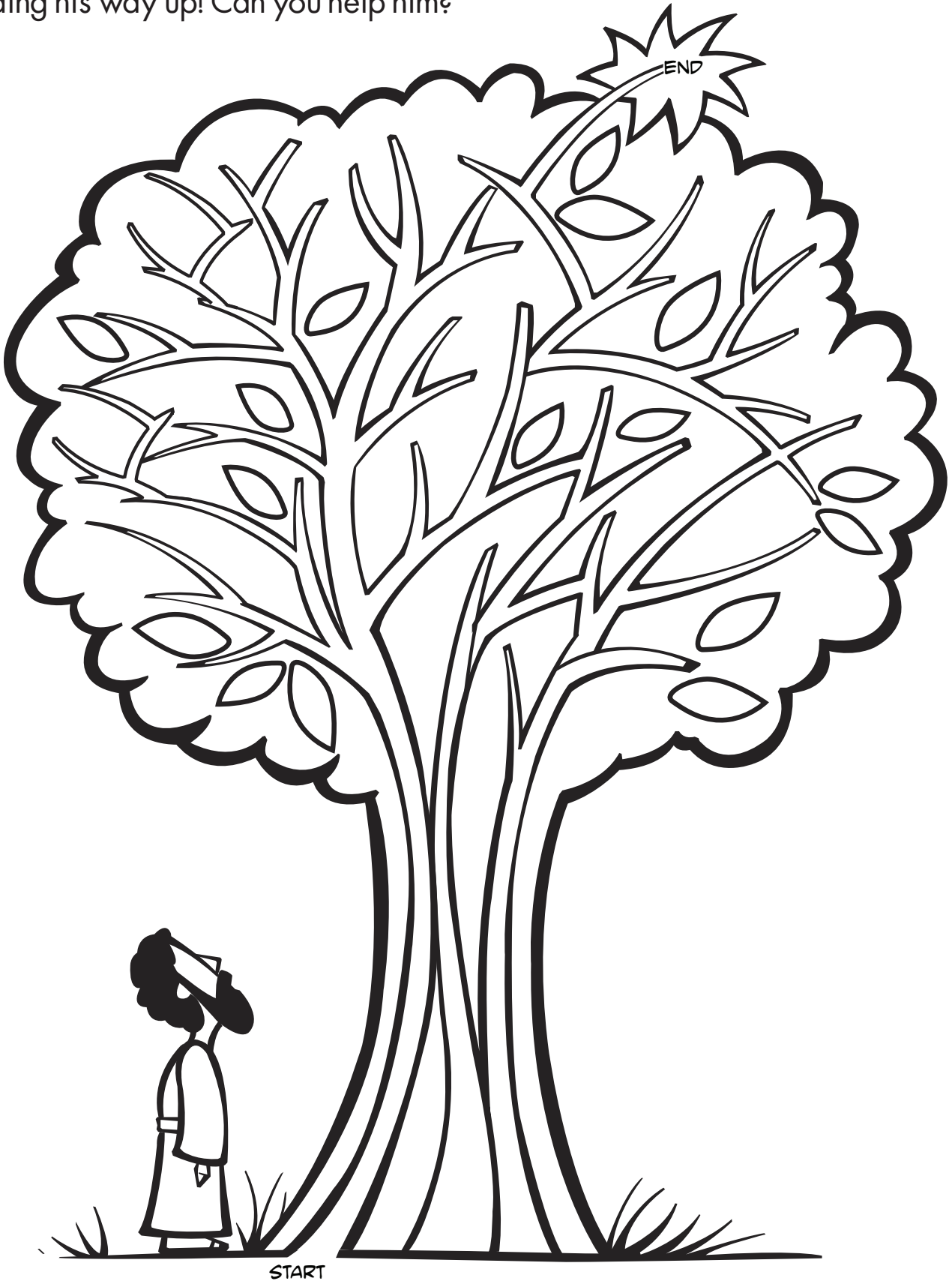
# The Big Z Giveaway

Jesus wants Zacchaeus to share his stuff! Can you help? Circle any things that Zacchaeus has two of. He can give those away! When you are finished, count how many "extra" things Zacchaeus had that he didn't need!



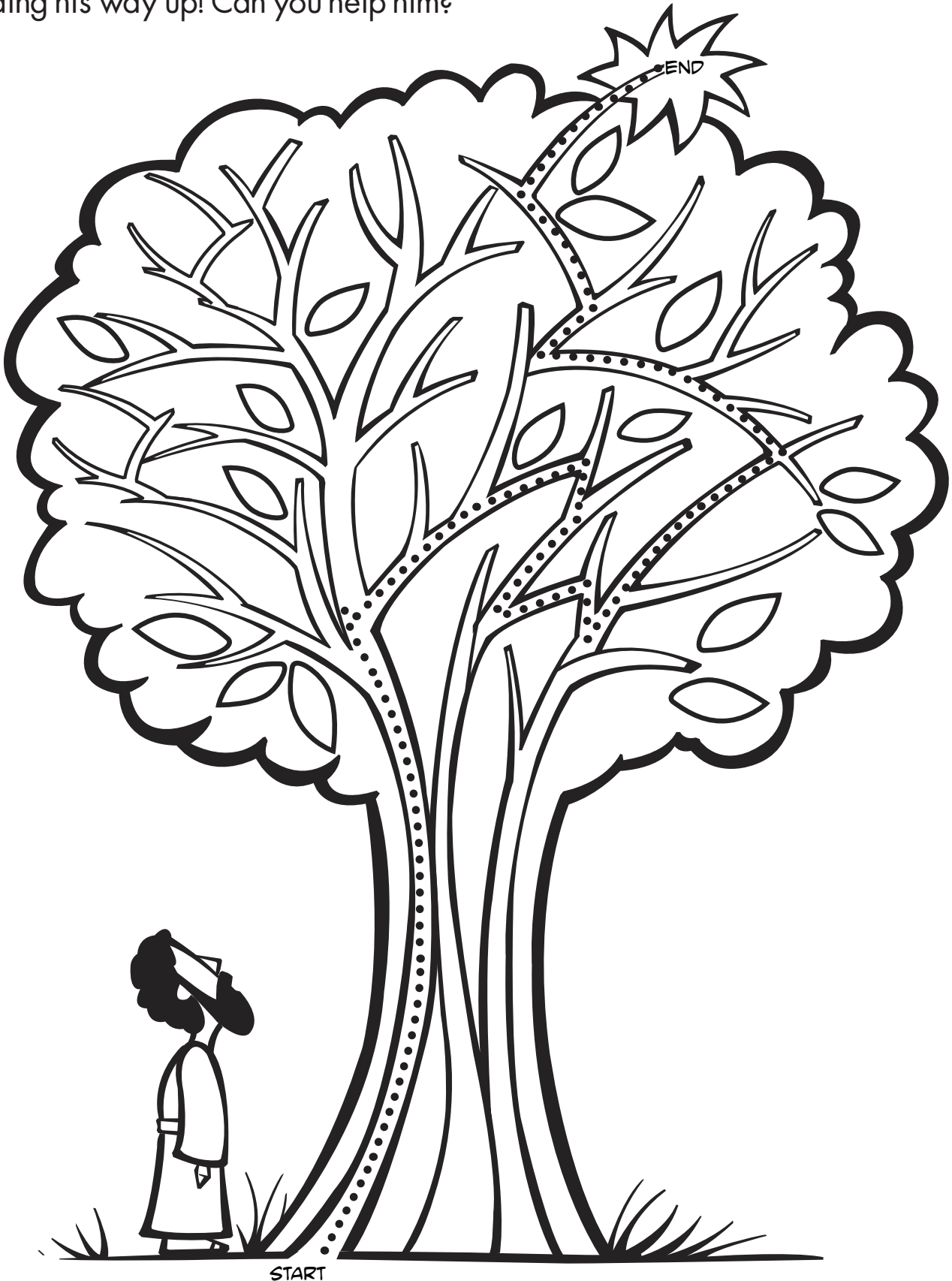
# Careful Climbing

Zacchaeus is trying to climb the tree to see Jesus, but is having trouble finding his way up! Can you help him?



# Careful Climbing Solution

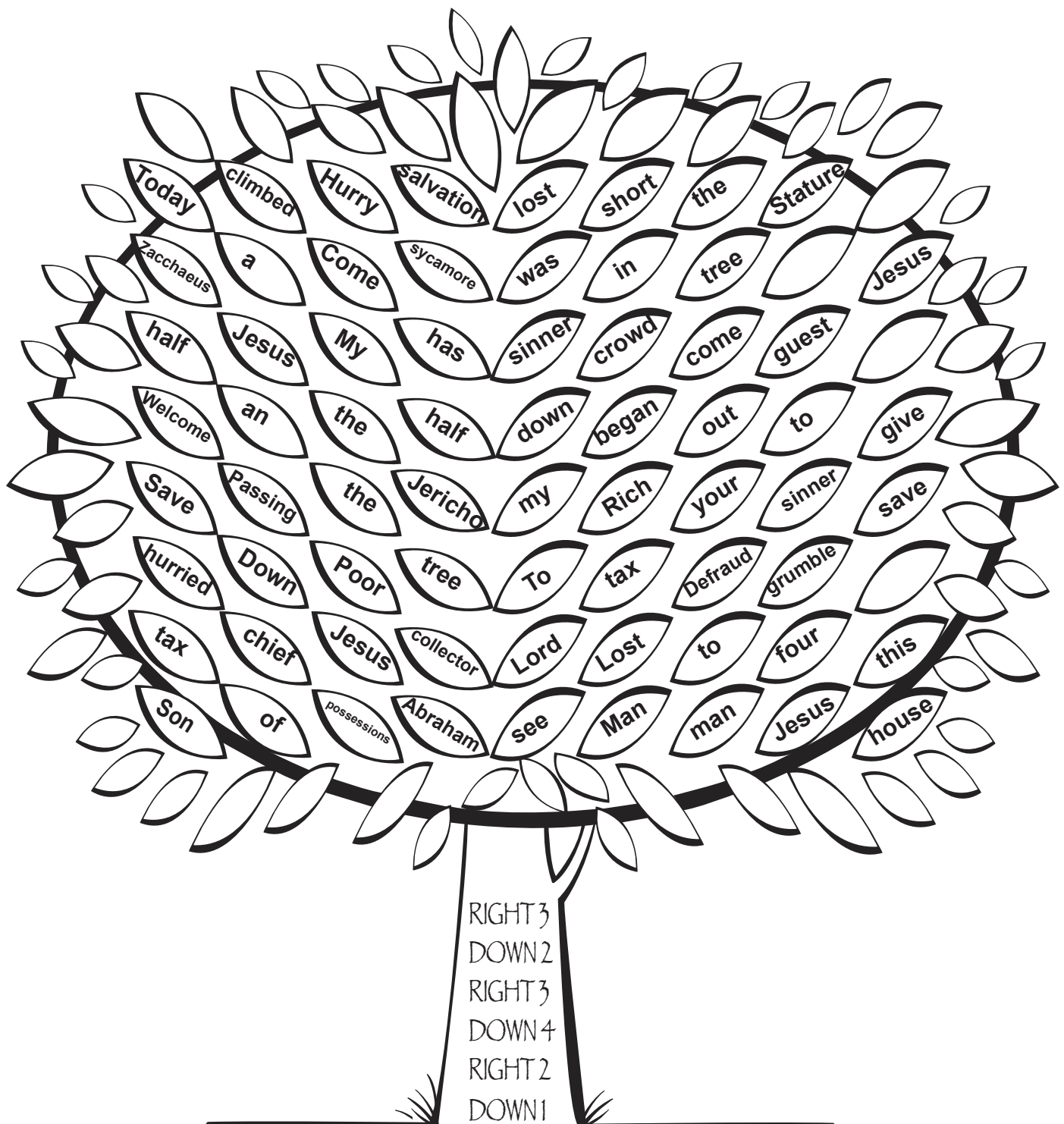
Zacchaeus is trying to climb the tree to see Jesus, but is having trouble finding his way up! Can you help him?



# Treetop Message

While others grumbled about Zacchaeus, Jesus had a powerful message! Can you find it in these leaves? Start with the word **Today**, then follow the directions in the trunk of the tree to discover what Jesus said.

Extra challenge: Use the words to make up another message. Then create new directions so someone else can find it.





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