



**Sermon-based reflections connect the week to the weekend!**

*Dig deeper into the talk each week, in a small group or independently. Challenge yourself to see how the message actually makes sense and applies to your everyday life.*

**Message Info:** Guiderrails - People Are Second, 11/5/23 - Keeping people below Jesus and above all else takes intention. Otherwise, we drift and start pursuing other, lesser things. It's easy to miss that what we really need, can't be found in stuff. And, counter-intuitive as it may sound, putting others before ourselves is more fulfilling than seeking our own desires. (Passages: Luke 19:1-9, Philippians 2:3-8, Luke 15)

**Discussion Questions:** Take your time and dig into these questions.

After Jesus at the center of our priorities, who comes next? Is it just family and friends? Who did Jesus love and prioritize? What kind of people was he close to? Why do we think people need to earn love? Or meet certain criteria to be seen?

Read Luke 19:1-9. What stands out to you in this passage. Why?

Zaccheus' story portrays so well how we can have everything and still feel empty. He valued wealth so greatly, he gave no thought to how acquiring it affected people. And though his life was comfortable and secure, he still felt that something was missing. What shifted in Zaccheus' priorities? What changed his heart? How can we facilitate the same in those God has placed in our lives?

Encountering Jesus was the turning point for Zaccheus. It wasn't a list of do's and dont's, or a desire to fit in. Being seen and loved, despite sin, is life changing.

Read Philippians 2:3-8. What theme stands out to you?

Like Jesus, we are called to humble ourselves in order to count others first; to stop for people, remove barriers, and put their interests before our own. To get a clearer picture of God's heart for the lost, look through Luke 15.

If God celebrates even the prodigal son's return, there is no one unworthy. Who are the people God has placed in your life? What are they struggling with? How can we show Jesus to our family every day? To strangers?

**Weekly Challenge:** Bring a box of spaghetti or jar of sauce to church next Sunday to donate to the Schuylkill Haven Food Bank.