

God's Glory Garden

'Lil Sprouts

Faith Church Nursery News

March 2011
Parent Edition

The Zacchaeus Syndrome —from a devotional in *Baby Beginnings*

¹ Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ² A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. ³ He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. ⁵ When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." ⁶ So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. ⁷ All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." ⁸ But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of

Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19: 1-9

Zacchaeus was a hated man. He boldly enriched himself at the expense of others, hiding behind the authority of the Roman government, hurting people right and left. His behavior was a lot like what we might see in a cranky toddler—grabby, aggressive, unable to focus on anyone but himself.

While Zacchaeus's focus on "ME" and "MINE!" was a normal response when he (himself) was only a baby or toddler, he seems to have never grown beyond it to treat other people with compassion. Instead, he became an adult who was just plain selfish and cruel. Do you suppose he was

treated cruelly as a little one, teaching him that cruelty was acceptable when one got big enough or powerful enough to bully other people? Did he live with selfishness that taught him it was the way to live?

Although it's true that children learn what they live with, it may have been none of those factors. But whatever the cause may have been, the only cure for his childish attitude was Jesus' love! It is Jesus' love that changes people—no matter what their age or height or problem. And Jesus' love can flow through you as you parent your child each day. Ask Him in your daily prayers to give you His love to share. He loves to answer such prayers! And recognize that as you treat your little ones with love—the kind

Newest Lil Sprout

Sophia Elizabeth Daubenmire

February 6, 2011

Birthday Blessings

Sarah Healey

&

Gavin Polter

March 4

Tyler Yoxthimer

March 11

Alyelanna Smith

March 17

Getting to Know Glory Gardener....

Coleen Swartzentruber

Coleen Swartzentruber remembers when her sons Garret, Grant, and Clark were young. Because her husband Ed was often out of town working, Coleen did the bulk of the parenting. "I always appreciated any relief with childcare," Coleen said. Additionally, the church she and Ed attended had

no nursery for parents who wished to serve in another ministry such as singing in the choir. So, when her three sons grew up, Coleen felt called to volunteer in the nursery to help out all the young parents.

Coleen admits that she was a tomboy growing up because she loved sports and going muskrat trapping with her older brother. However, Coleen was not all tomboy: she remembers that as a young teen she went into the tiny nursery at the church where her grandpa was the pastor so she could hold the babies! Coleen accepted the Lord as her Savior at the age of thirteen when she attended a revival meeting at that same church, Berea Mennonite Church in southern Indiana. Later she graduated from the University of Evansville with a degree in nursing. Her career decision resulted from watching the amazing care nurses gave to her brother after he was critically injured in an accident.

Tomboy no more (well, maybe a little bit), Coleen now spends quite a bit of time caring for her own grandchildren—Jack, 3; Noah, 1; and Lola, 10 mos. —as well as all the little ones here at Faith! Thank you, Coleen. We appreciate all your attentive work in Faith's version of God's Glory Garden!





Sandy Howard,
 Director of Children's Ministry
 showard@faithchurch.net
 831-3770 ext. 122

Connie Martin,
 Nursery Coordinator
 cmartin@faithchurch.net
 831-3770 ext. 121
 Cell: 546-9539

So much to know,
 So much to do,
 My age, you see,
 is half past 2.
 I've learned to
 run and jump
 And swing and
 dig and build
 And talk and sing.
 But best of all,
 Throughout the day,
 My family helps me
 Learn to pray.



Kids Say the Darndest Things!

Ministry Associate and Glory Gardener
 Sharon Frazier shares this mother-
 daughter moment:

When my daughter was about three years old, I served fried chicken for dinner. I would always give her a drumstick and trim the meat off the bone. This particular time, she asked for a second helping, and said, "This time, leave the chicken on the cob!"

Has your child said anything funny or astounding recently? Email to me what your little one has said/done and I'll include it in a future *Lil Sprouts!*

Day and Night

When the sun is in the sky, [Hands circle and meet overhead]
 Jesus loves me. [Hug self]
 When the stars are way up high, [Point up to the sky]
 Jesus loves me. [Hug self]
 In the day and in the night,
 While I play and then sleep tight, [Head on folded hands]
 Jesus loves me. [Hug!]

Say and do this finger play with your child. Use the child's name instead of "I" and "me." Take your child outside on a sunny day and again on a starry evening and do this finger play each time. Do this finger play with your child at naptime or bedtime or when he or she is having fun playing.

Glad You Asked That!

From Gospel Light's *Baby Beginnings*

Q: What can I do about my child's whining?

A: A very young child needs to communicate a need for attention. What we call whining (fussing, moaning, refusing to play with a toy, crying) is a normal way for a child to say he or she is hungry, tired, uncomfortable or frustrated. Here are some suggestions to help minimize your child's whining.

- Respond to any obvious problems that require your attention, such as hunger, ear infection or frustration.
- Consider the time of day. Is it nap time? Time for a change of scenery? Is it time for a snack or a drink? Experienced parents say that in the late afternoon from around four until dinner time, some children (and adults) seem to be at a low ebb emotionally and physically. Plan ahead to take a few minutes' break during this time (or any other part of the day when your child seems to whine consistently).

Sit on the floor with your child, rock him or her, read a story together or take him or her for a walk.

- Be sure to give your child age-appropriate toys. Toys that are intended for older children will provoke frustration. Toys that are intended for younger children will lead to boredom.
- Respond to your child immediately. A lack of response simply encourages the child to keep trying to gain your attention.
- If you must say no to a child's request, give a clear, simple reason, and then provide an appropriate substitute.

Every child whines sometimes. However, if you talk calmly to your child, helping your child put his or her feelings into words as he or she grows, your child will likely outgrow whining.

Tell It! Jesus Loved Zacchaeus

Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus. But Zacchaeus was little.

Zacchaeus couldn't see over the taller people. So he climbed up into a tree!

Now he could see Jesus. Jesus saw Zacchaeus, too. Jesus loved Zacchaeus.

And Jesus loves you!

Continued from front:

of love God has shown you in Jesus—you are teaching powerful lessons, lessons that will help your babies outgrow the "Zacchaeus Syndrome"!

This month in the Daisy room (2's), we will begin with Jesus's approach to Zacchaeus as the little man sat high in the sycamore tree in order to get a glimpse of the traveling Teacher. Then, we will take a quick peek at Timothy and how his mother and grandmother taught him to trust in Jesus. By the end of March we will visit Jesus performing one of his miracles: making a blind man see! In the one-year-old room, the children will hear frequently that just as Jesus loved Zacchaeus, He loves all of them just as they are. Take lots of time this month to reinforce to your babies that Jesus loves them.