



Cat Stuck In A Tree

Study Verse: Luke 19:1-6

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

My Thoughts: The parable of Zacchaeus. He wanted to see Jesus but was too small to push through the crowd, too short to see over them, so he climbed a tree. What would you do to get to see Jesus?

I have some amazing stray cats that have adopted me. They scatter here and there when a stranger comes in the yard. They wonder about, sometimes bringing a gift of a proud capture of squirrel, rat, mole, unfortunately an occasional bird. They purr and roll about when I talk to them, and come running when I call. Well one of the older cats didn't come but cried out when I called. I looked and called. A neighbor helped me find him. Streak was way high in a tree. He would not come down. So this morning with help from my niece and an extension ladder, I climbed into the tree moving closer to Streak, just close enough he could touch me. Streak allowed me to hold him and bring him down to safety. Streak is no Zacchaeus,

1. He wasn't searching for Jesus.
2. He would not come down when I called for him to.
3. But he did follow me home for a meal (LOL)

Intimidation chased Streak up that tree, fear prevented him from climbing down, no matter what I tried, he could not get past the fear. It broke my heart to hear him crying for help while I was waiting for my Niece to arrive with the ladder. During this time, this devotion developed before me.

There are so many people walking past us each day searching for something to fill a void created by hurt, fear, missed opportunities, etc. People, situations, fear has chased them up a tree. Jesus sees where you are, He is standing below calling, come, come, I will catch you, just turn around... He continues to call out while waiting for someone to arrive with an extension ladder. Jesus wants to get closer to you, no more cause for fear. Do not resist moving toward the hand of rescue. Jesus is good and kind. No longer be untrusting of the rescue and change of situation. I promise, if you will move toward Jesus, He will hold you close, securing your safety, He will heal any wounds, give you water and nourishment, restore strength, settle your fear replacing it with courage. There is no better refuge than in the arms of Jesus. Jump, climb down, He has you..

Until next time, may God bless, heal, protect and grow in you daily, Everyone say, AMEN.