

Olly Olly Oxen Free

Luke 19:1-10

With visiting Pastor Bob Shepard

- The story of God and the human race is a story of hide and seek.
- God is not hiding from us, God wants us to know Him, perhaps more than we want to know Him. God is not that hard to find.
- Hiding is our first response to an awareness that we have sinned - that we have not lived up to the perfection standards of God's holiness.
- It's as old as Adam and Eve. *Genesis 3:8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.*
- We could summarize the whole human dilemma with these words - Wanting to hide; needing to be sought; and confused about being found.
- "The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost". He came to be "found".

The Story of Zacchaeus

His profession: **Chief Tax Collector**

His curiosity about Jesus

The invitation by Jesus

The response of Zacchaeus

It's immediacy

Its confession - What is the significance of a 4x repayment?

It's sacrifice

Application #1

If you are hiding today, you have been found by one who loves you more than you will ever know.

Application #2

We who claim to minister in the name of Jesus are to be "it" as well - searching and seeking out those who don't know Christ.

May our ministries in word and action be a wonderful proclamation of the marvelous, seeking, compassionate love of Christ - proclaiming this incredible invitation "Olly Olly oxen free"