



## FOR Them Halftime Sunday // Jeff Brodie // February 9, 2025

10 months ago our church kicked off a 20-month initiative called FOR Them. On this “halftime” Sunday, Jeff will be reminding us of our calling in this, updating us on the progress and how God is at work, and inspiring us to jump in for the sake of those who don’t know Jesus yet.

**Scripture:** [Luke 19:1-10 NLT](#)

**Bottom Line:** Let’s be a big tree with low branches.

### **Discuss:**

*Reminder: The goal is always a good discussion, not completing every question. Use these as a tool to help.*

1. Would you consider yourself as someone who naturally invites others to join something or does this push you out of your comfort zone?
2. Where have you had conversations about faith recently with people who don’t attend church? In what ways have you noticed more openness from people?
3. Can you think of a time in your life when you really wanted to see Jesus?
4. In Luke 19:1-10, Zacchaeus experienced an obstacle to see Jesus. What are some common obstacles people face today when trying to explore faith, get involved in a church community, or just hang out with Christians?
4. Jesus called Zacchaeus by name and invited himself into his home. How does this interaction show us something about God’s character?
5. Zacchaeus responded to Jesus by making a drastic life change, giving generously to the poor, and repaying those he wronged. Why do you think encountering Jesus led him to respond in such a radical way? How does that apply to us today?
7. Jeff challenged the church to be a big tree with low branches—growing in our relationship with Jesus as we make faith accessible to others. How could you make your faith more accessible to those around you?
8. One of the most common obstacles for people outside the church is feeling like they wouldn’t be welcome or accepted. How can you change that perception in your daily interactions with others?

9. The message emphasized the importance of personal invitation—someone inviting a friend can make all the difference. Who in your life might be searching for hope, and what could an invitation to explore faith mean for them?
10. Jeff encouraged us not to turn inward out of fear, but instead to focus outward as we grow in our faith. The more we grow spiritually, the more outward-facing we should become. What are some ways we might unintentionally turn our focus inward, and how can we shift our mindset to be more mission-driven and others-oriented?

**Moving Forward:**

This week, continue to pray for the people in your life who need the hope of Jesus. Also, continue to pray for our church and for yourself as we seek to be FOR Them.

For those of you who are participating in a new financial commitment to the FOR Them initiative, pray that God would give you courage and clarity as you step out in faith. Check out [connexuschurch.com/forthem](http://connexuschurch.com/forthem) for all the details.