

Key Vocabulary

Important Facts

**Bible** - Christians holy book.

**Forgive** - to decide to not be angry or upset with someone who has harmed you.

**Pray** - to interact and talk to God.

**Church** - a sacred place where Christian attend to worship, pray and get closer to God.

**God** - A supreme being

**Disciple** - a personal follower of Christ during his life.



The Bible consists of two parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The New Testament describes Jesus's close friends as disciples. Jesus had twelve disciples. He met each of them on separate occasions and they became his followers.

**Matthew the tax collector**

Tax collectors were reviled by the Jewish people because they worked for the Roman forces. Matthew's life changed when he met Jesus.



**Story of Zacchaeus**

Zacchaeus, was a chief tax-collector in Jericho, mentioned only in the Gospel of Luke. He was an example of Jesus's personal, earthly mission to bring salvation to the lost. Tax collectors were despised as traitors, and as being corrupt. In this story, Jesus was passing through Jericho on his way to Jerusalem.

Zacchaeus was short and unable to see Jesus through the crowd. Zacchaeus ran ahead and climbed a tree along Jesus's path. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up at the tree and called Zacchaeus by name, and told him to come down, for he intended to visit his house. The crowd was shocked that Jesus, a religious teacher would want to be with Zacchaeus, whom the people thought of as a sinner. Zacchaeus had a change of heart of heart and repented and repaid the people he cheated and took money from. Jesus forgave Zacchaeus for his sins.

**Forgiveness, peace and friendship**

Jesus taught his followers that God forgives them, but they need to forgive others too.

Forgiveness from God is good news for Christians. Jesus promises his followers peace. Jesus set examples through the people he met and even became 'friend to the friendless'.

