

**“And he sought to see
who Jesus was”**

Luke 19:3



Overcoming the barrier of “others”



□ How do I compare myself to others?

“...for he was of short stature”

- Am I overwhelmed with these comparisons?
- Do I feel jealous, envious of others and insecure in who I am?
- Am I consumed in self-pity and anger towards God?
- How often do I meditate upon whether or not others are fair to me?



❑ Are others my rivals?

“but could not because of the crowd”

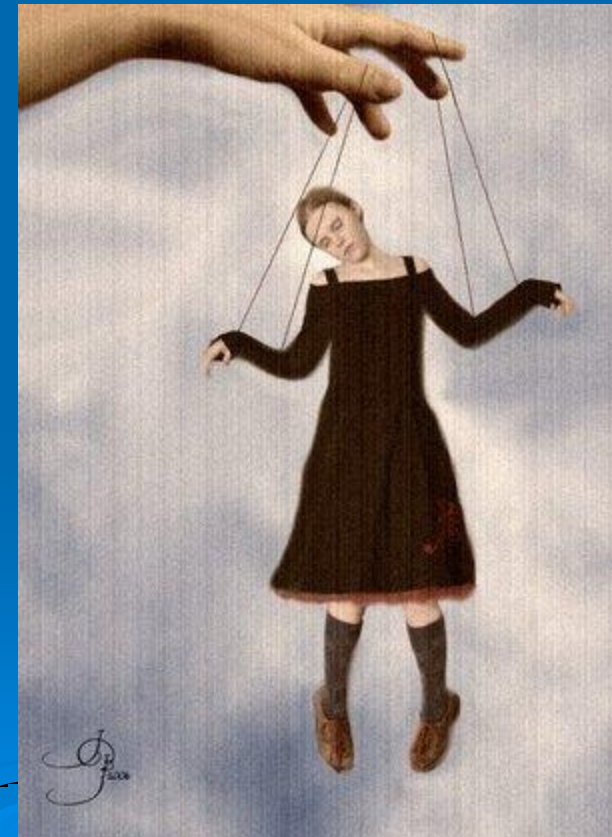
- “...but while I am coming, another steps down before me.” (John 5:7)
- “but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us” (3 John 9)



□ How strong is this question's grip on my soul: “What others think of me”?

“So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree”

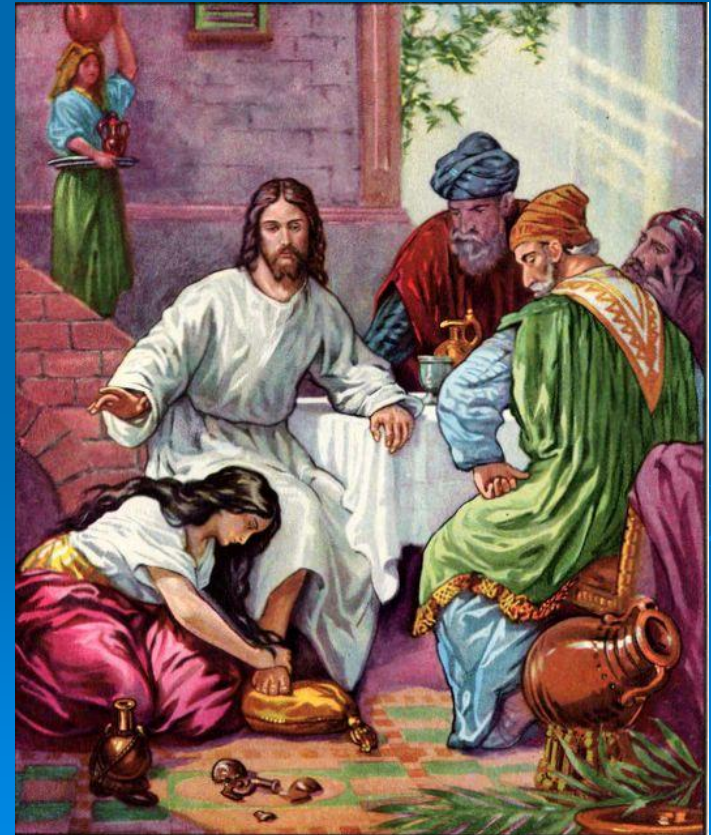
- Do I hesitate to do what I know is right because of others?
- Do I try to please men and not God?
- Am I really the person whom others describe?



❑ The barrier of “they do not like me”

“But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, ‘He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner.’”

- How does this barrier keep me from God?
- The example of the sinful woman



❑ Do I have enough courage to admit my faults?

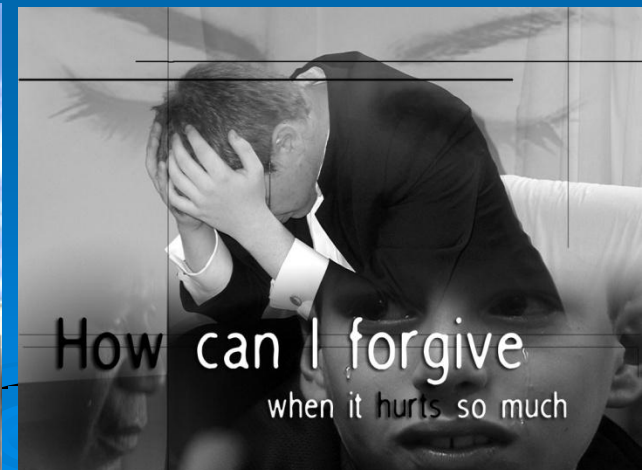
“if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold”

- Am I tempted to hide my faults or avoid confession all together to maintain a good image before my confessor father?



❑ Is my repentance hindered by others?

- Giving back what is due to others and unlawful to keep?
- Am I able to forgive truly from my heart?



❑ What did Zacchaeus do?

- He only sought to see the Lord Jesus and he did whatever it took
- He never heeded others' comments about his actions
- He received the Lord with joy, unblemished by others' negative comments
- He looked to Him alone and sought just to receive His salvation before returning the money