



BOTTOM LINE

JESUS DOESN'T FIT IN A POLITICAL BOX.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 18:41-43, NLT

"What do you want me to do for you?"

"Lord," he said, "I want to see!"

And Jesus said, "All right, receive your sight! Your faith has healed you." Instantly the man could see, and he followed Jesus, praising God. And all who saw it praised God, too.

Luke 19:5-7, NLT

"Zacchaeus!" he said. "Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today!" Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy. But the people were displeased. "He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner," they grumbled.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are a guide to get the conversation started in your group—don't feel like you need to ask everything you see here! As long as you're having a conversation, you're on the right track. Also, feel free to adjust the questions to fit the needs of your specific group.

1. If you grew up in church, what was your mental picture of Jesus like? What did He look like and sound like?
2. Why do you think most of us tend to naturally assume that Jesus' political opinions would align with our own personal political positions today?
3. Is it hard to imagine Jesus befriending someone on the other side of the political aisle and *liking* them? Why or why not?
4. How do you typically react to people who think differently than you? (*Get defensive, get aggressive, ignore them, etc.*)
5. What are some assumptions you've made about who Jesus is, what Jesus is like, and the kinds of people Jesus would associate with today?
6. Have you ever found yourself not associating with certain people because of someone else's—or culture's—opinion of them?
7. What's one way you can remind yourself to practice humility and offer genuine interest the next time you encounter someone with viewpoints that oppose yours?