

- Help the children, as needed, punch a hole at the top of the plate and tie the open end of the yarn through the hole.
- Show the children how to bring Zacchaeus up and down the tree by pulling the yarn through the hole to the back of the tree.

**SAY:** Jesus called Zacchaeus by his name, and he had never met him.

**WONDER:** How did Jesus know Zacchaeus's name? Do you think Jesus knows your name?

## Where's Zacchaeus? (Game)

*Supplies: painters' tape, short step stool, stickers*

*Prepare Ahead: Tape the shape of a square on the floor, large enough to hold all your children.*

**SAY:** Today our Bible story is about Zacchaeus, a tax collector who wanted to see Jesus. There were so many people, he couldn't see Jesus, so he climbed a tree.

- Have the children move around the room like they were the crowd.
- Pretend to put a sticker on the back of each child, but only put a sticker on the back of one child.
- When you shout, "Jesus is coming," they should all run into the square.
- When all the children are in the square, ask, "Where is Zacchaeus?"
- Have the children look for the child with the sticker on her or his back.
- Let the child with the sticker stand on the stool and say, "Here I am! I am sorry!"
- Have the crowd of children shout, "You are forgiven!"
- Play several rounds of the game.

**SAY:** Jesus forgave Zacchaeus, and Jesus wants all of us to forgive others.

**WONDER:** How do you think Zacchaeus felt when Jesus forgave him?

## Zacchaeus in the Tree (Snack)

*Supplies: ice cream sugar cones (one for each child), green frosting, individual containers for frosting, plastic knives, small paper plates, napkins, Gummi bears*

*Prepare Ahead: Place the frosting in individual containers, one for each child. Place a cone upside down on each plate.*

- Have the children cover the cones with green frosting and place the Gummi bears "up the tree" (by pushing them into the icing on the cone).