



Vision and Commitment 2018  
**A year to focus on discipleship**

**Every day, in**  
**everything**  
&  
**everywhere**

## Opening Up

### Interactive, creative game based on Luke 19:1-10

For this you will need:

- A compère who will talk the game through
- A big box wrapped up very nicely
- A toilet roll to go in the big box
- A medium-sized box wrapped in normal paper
- A box of Maltesers to go in medium-sized box
- A small plain box
- A gift card for a meal for two to go in the smallest box

The compère shows the big box to the congregation, making a big thing about how nice the box is. They explain to the congregation that the game will be 'Pass the box'. While the congregation sings a song played by the pianist (or CD), the box is passed around; and when the music suddenly stops, the person holding the box should come to the front.

The compère then shows the medium box to the congregation, still making a thing about it, but not as much as with the first box. Once again the congregation will sing as the box is passed round, until the music stops and the person left holding the box will have to come to the front to join the other one.

Finally the compère shows the small box to the congregation, without making a fuss about it. The congregation sings for the last time while the box is passed round, until the music abruptly stops and the person holding the box will come to the front to join the other two people.

The three box owners stand at the front, and each of the boxes is opened and the gifts revealed.

The compère can then explain that the big box may look attractive on the outside but this contains only the toilet roll. The middle box is a satisfactory gift (the Maltesers) - but the best gift of all is in the plainest package.

The reason for the meal for two goes back to the story of Zacchaeus.

Jesus could have chosen to eat with anybody, but he took time to seek out the person who, on the face of it, seemed the most undesirable, and choose him.





Vision and Commitment 2018  
**A year to focus on discipleship**

Every day, in  
everything  
&  
everywhere

Jesus wasn't attracted to things nicely wrapped on the outside. He was more bothered about what was on the inside.

There's a story Jesus told about a despised tax man and a Pharisee who both went to the Temple to pray. The Pharisee thought he was a good man in God's eyes, but the tax man knew he was a sinner and prayed for forgiveness. Jesus said: 'This tax man, not the other, went home made right with God. If you walk around with your nose in the air, you're going to end up flat on your face, but if you're content to be simply yourself, you will become more than yourself' (Luke 18:14 *The Message*).

