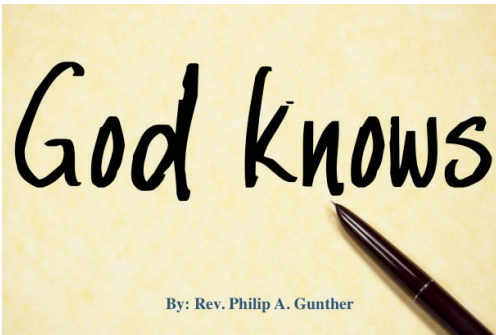


“On Mission Together”

Saskatchewan Conference of MB Churches

No Surprise To God



God has already walked your future.

“The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”

Deuteronomy 31:8

“God is already in the details of your tomorrow.”

Lysa Terkeurst

I have been pondering a very small yet notable detail in the biblical story of Zacchaeus. Before I reveal it, soak in the story itself.

“Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.” Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Can you guess what about this story I have been pondering? I won't keep you in suspense. It's the sycamore-fig tree. That small detail, in my view, tells me something about God's purposes and planning.

Zacchaeus was a man of small stature. He longed to see Jesus, and there just happened to be a tree available for this sinful chief tax collector to encounter Jesus and experience salvation. I may be going into the weeds here and playing with some degree of eisegesis (injecting subjective meaning into a text). And so, take my commentary with a grain of salt and draw from it whatever encourages you and moves you toward Christlikeness.

[Clicker HERE to continue reading](#)

Director's Calendar

May

10-15 – NMT/NFLT Mtgs (Waterloo)
24 - Grace Community Church
(Herbert)
26-28 - Pastor Clusters

June

1-4 - Pastors Credentialing
Orientation (Abbotsford)
5-7 - African Leaders Conference
(Steinbach)
14 - Waldheim MB Church
18 - CCMBC AGM
28 - Hafford Gospel Fellowship

July

2 - NMT Mtg.
5 - Anchor Church (Regina)
12 - Hepburn MB Church
26 - Wynyard Gospel Church

*Please pray for travelling
mercies.*

Director of Ministry

Rev. Philip A. Gunther

Call or text:

306-533-6191

Email: phil@skmb.ca

604 Webster St.

Saskatoon SK S7N 3P9

Leadership Development Coach

David Simpson

E-mail: david@skmb.ca

Website & News Letter

Administrator

Heather Filazek

Email: office@skmb.ca

YOU
SAID
YES

How do I start my
new life with Jesus?

LEADERS & SPOUSES RETREAT

JESUS IS ENOUGH

THE HOPE OF THE GOSPEL AND THE DAILY GRIND

"CHRIST GIVES ME STRENGTH TO FACE ANYTHING."
PHILIPPIANS 4:13 CEV

SESSIONAL THEMES

- WHEN THERE'S NO GAS IN THE TANK
- WHEN FAILURE LOOMS LARGE
- WHEN CONTENTMENT IS A NO-SHOW
- WHEN FAITH IS FRAGILE
- WHEN JOY IS JUST OUT OF REACH

BANFF, ALBERTA
OCTOBER 19 - 22, 2026
SKMB.CA | ABMB.CA

ABMB
SKMB

REGISTRATION

<https://abmb.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3421253>

Please note that SKMB is subsidizing this event to keep the registration cost as low as possible.

\$1200 per couple / \$800 per individual

For financial support contact the Director of Ministry:

phil@skmb.ca

***** SKMB has budgeted a particular maximum amount for 2026 retreat subsidies. Once that amount has been reached, no further subsidies will be issued.**

Deadline for registering is JUNE 1st.

Supporting SKMB Churches and Camps in Making Disciples