

# *Meals with Jesus*

*life lessons that will nourish your soul*

## Luke Chapter 19

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through.

<sup>2</sup> A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. <sup>3</sup> He

wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short

man he could not, because of the crowd. <sup>4</sup> So he

ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see

him, since Jesus was coming that way.

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## Luke Chapter 19

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." <sup>6</sup> So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. <sup>7</sup> All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.' "

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## **Luke Chapter 19**

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."

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## **Luke Chapter 19**

Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup> For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

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Luke 7:34

"You say (Jesus) is a friend of tax gatherers and sinners."

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# Luke Chapter 19

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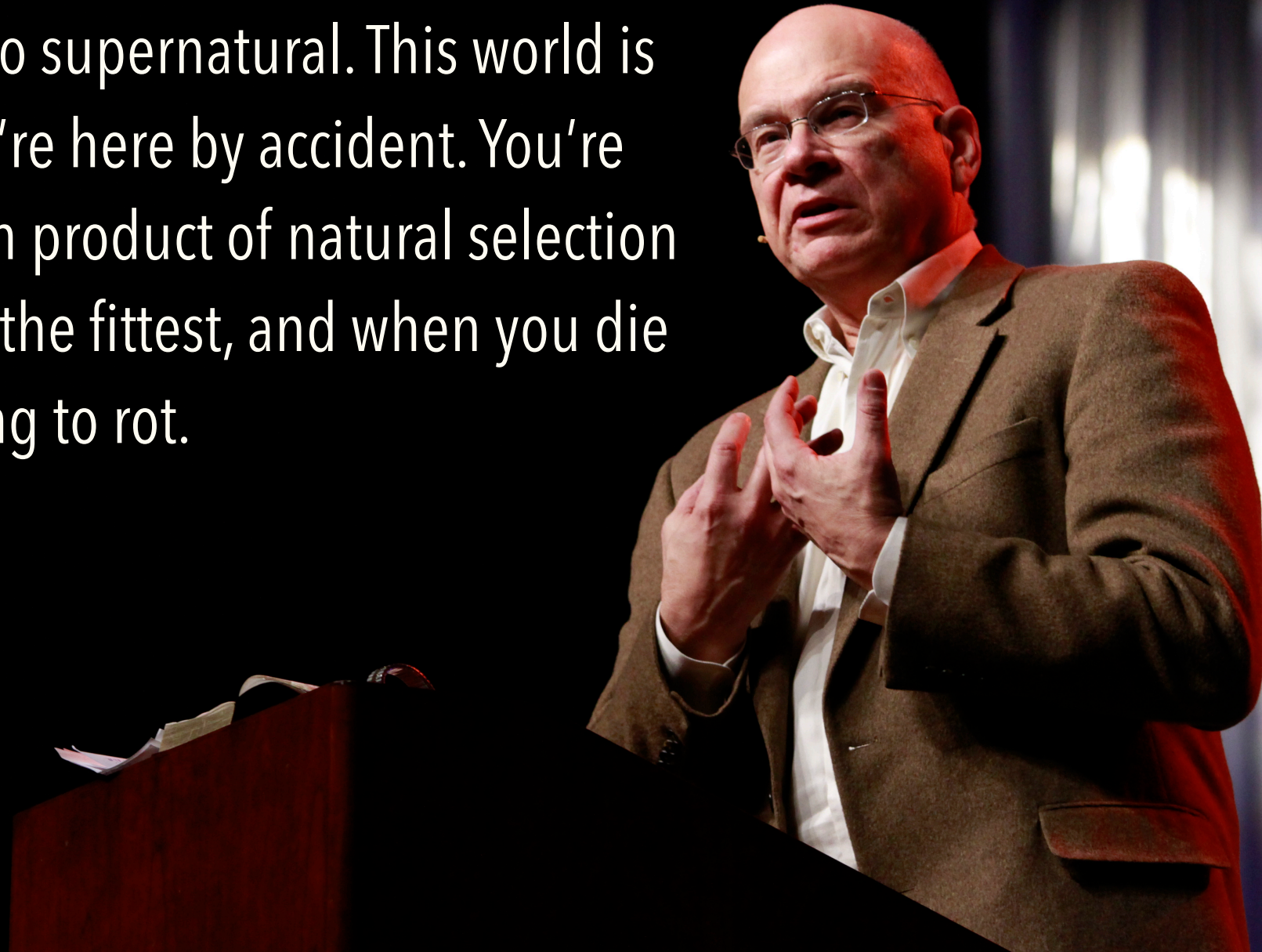
# I. You have to get over yourself.

He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. <sup>4</sup> So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. Luke 19:3,4

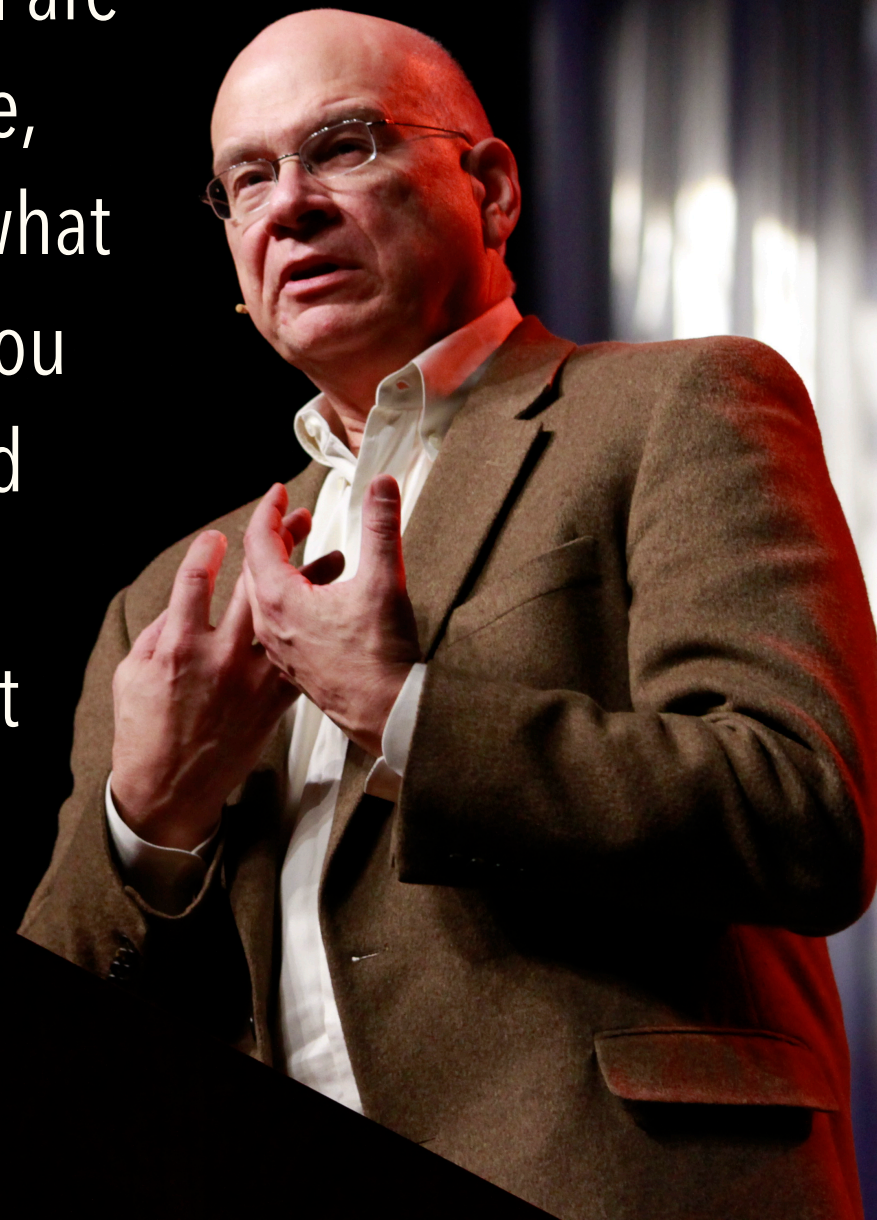
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Here's what we tell children in our society:  
"Hey, there is no supernatural. This world is  
all there is. You're here by accident. You're  
just the random product of natural selection  
and survival of the fittest, and when you die  
you're just going to rot.



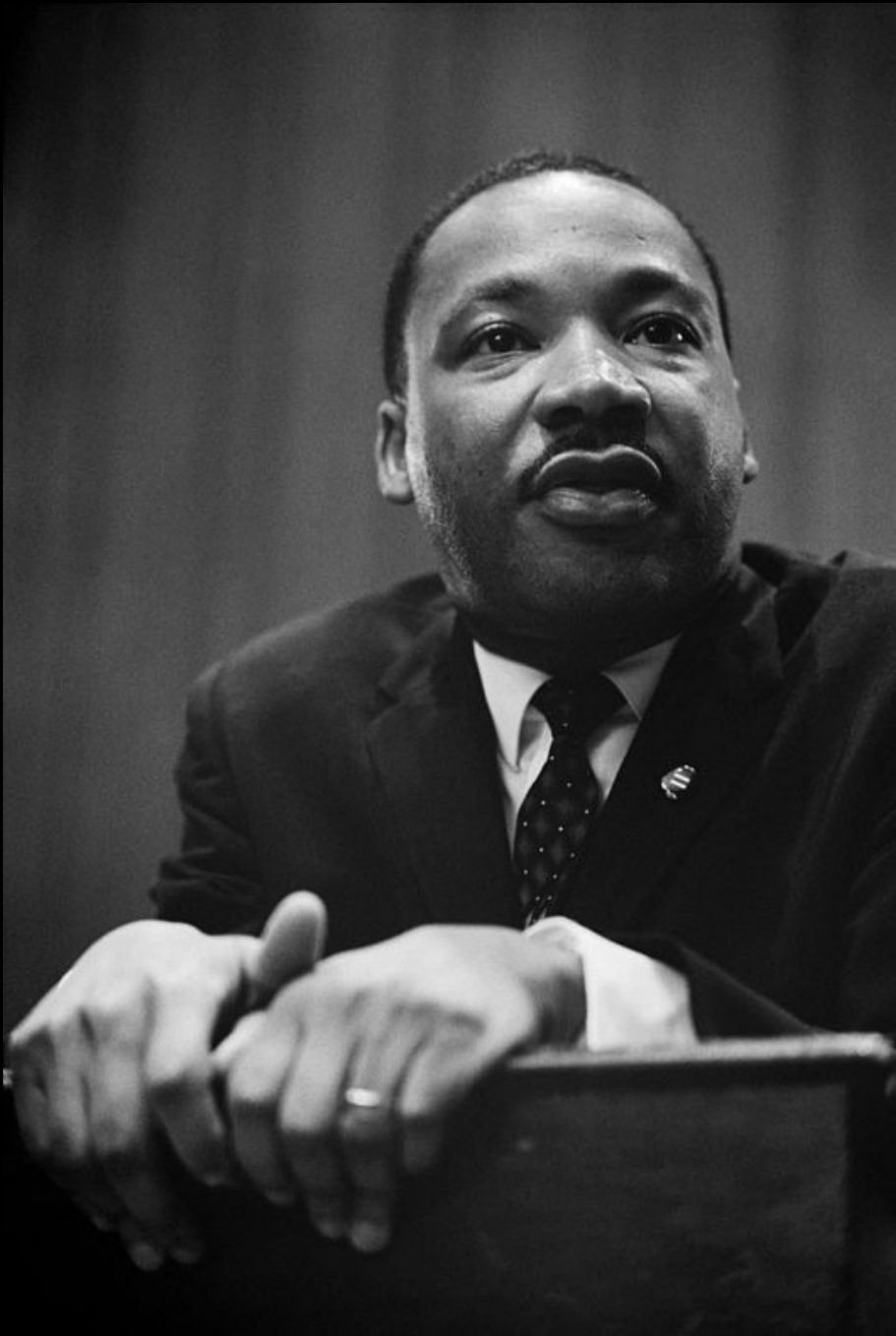
There is no supernatural good and supernatural evil, because good and evil are just social constructs. They're just relative, and nobody really knows. Who's to say what is good? If you still believe in God and you still believe in the Devil and demons and angels, you are a child. You are an intellectual primitive, and it's time to put away childish things."



"Unless you become like a child, you cannot enter the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 18:3

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Martin Luther King Jr.

"I refuse to believe the idea that we are mere flotsam and jetsam in the river of life, unable to respond to the eternal 'ought-ness' that forever confronts us."

"I believe there's an eternal world out there beyond this world by which we know certain laws in this world are unjust. Injustice is not a matter of opinion. Good and evil are not just matters of opinion; they're not all relative."



Martin Luther King Jr.





Anne Rice

"I read N.T. Wright's book, *The Resurrection of the Son of God*, and I realized the resurrection really happened, that someone from another world broke into this world. It really, really happened."

In the moment of surrender, I let go of all the theological or social questions which had kept me from [God] for countless years. I simply let them go. There was the sense, profound and wordless, that if He knew everything I did not have to know everything, and that, in seeking to know everything, I'd been, all of my life, missing the entire point. No social paradox, no historic disaster, no hideous record of injustice or misery should keep me from Him.

No question of Scriptural integrity, no torment over the fate of this or that atheist or gay friend, no worry for those condemned and ostracized by my church or any other church should stand between me and Him. The reason? It was magnificently simple: He knew how or why everything happened; He knew the disposition of every single soul. He wasn't going to let anything happen by accident! Nobody was going to go to Hell by mistake."



C.S. Lewis

"As an adolescent, I would have been ashamed to have been found reading fairy tales." When you become a teenager or so, you're told, "You can't read fairy tales. You can't believe in witches and other worlds and all that sort of thing."



"Now that I am 50, I read them in public. For when I became a man, I put away childish things, especially the fear of childishness."

C.S. Lewis

## II. You have to get over the judgmental crowd.

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.”<sup>6</sup> So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.<sup>7</sup> All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a ‘sinner.’ ” Luke 19:5-7

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"I tell you the truth, corrupt tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the Kingdom of God before you do.

Matthew 21:31

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"Woe to you, Chorazin and Bethsaida!  
It'll be better on judgment day for  
Sodom and Gomorrah than for you."

Matthew 11:21

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# Luke Chapter 19

Jesus...said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. ...<sup>7</sup> All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.' "

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### III. You Have To Take Jesus Home.

“Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.”<sup>6</sup> So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. Luke 19:5,6

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## **Luke Chapter 19**

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."

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"If you declare with your mouth,  
"Jesus is Lord," and believe in your  
heart that God raised him from the  
dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9

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“(Jesus) said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”<sup>23</sup> When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy.

Luke 18:22,23

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**Luke Chapter 19** ...and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

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"I stand at the door and knock. Open up. I will come in, and I will eat with you ..."  
Revelation 3:20

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