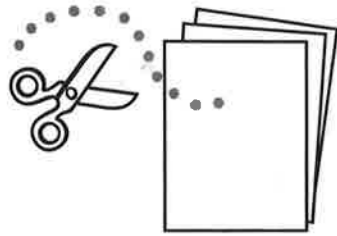


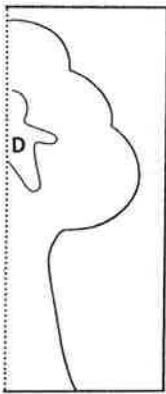
# ZACCHAEUS

## PREPARATION



You'll need scissors and one sheet of green construction paper. The pattern for this activity is on page 98.

## THE STORY




 Fold the paper in half vertically.

Zacchaeus was a tax collector. People had to give him money to give to the king. But Zacchaeus didn't give all of the people's money to the king. Zacchaeus kept some of the money for himself, and he got very rich. The people weren't happy about this. How would you feel if someone was taking your money? *Let children respond.*

Most of the people didn't like Zacchaeus. They didn't like him one bit.

Jesus was coming to the town where Zacchaeus lived. Everyone in town went out to the road where Jesus would pass. They wanted to see and hear Jesus. What would you do if Jesus came to our town? *Let children respond.*


 Cut figure from A to B.

Zacchaeus followed the crowds of people. But he couldn't find a place to stand where he could see.


 Cut figure from B to C.

Zacchaeus was a very short man, and everyone else was standing in front of him. Have you ever tried to see over a crowd of people? What was it like? *Let children respond.*

No one would let Zacchaeus get through so he could see.

 Cut out section D, leaving a small portion attached at the top.


Then Zacchaeus saw a tall tree nearby. So guess what he did. He climbed up in the tree so he could see over all the people.

 Open the figure to show Zacchaeus in the tree.

The tree was a perfect place to watch Jesus pass. Soon Zacchaeus could see Jesus coming. When Jesus got close to the tree where Zacchaeus was, he looked up at Zacchaeus. He said, "Come down, Zacchaeus. I want to come over to your house and spend some time with you." How would it feel if you were Zacchaeus and Jesus found you in a tree? *Let children respond.*

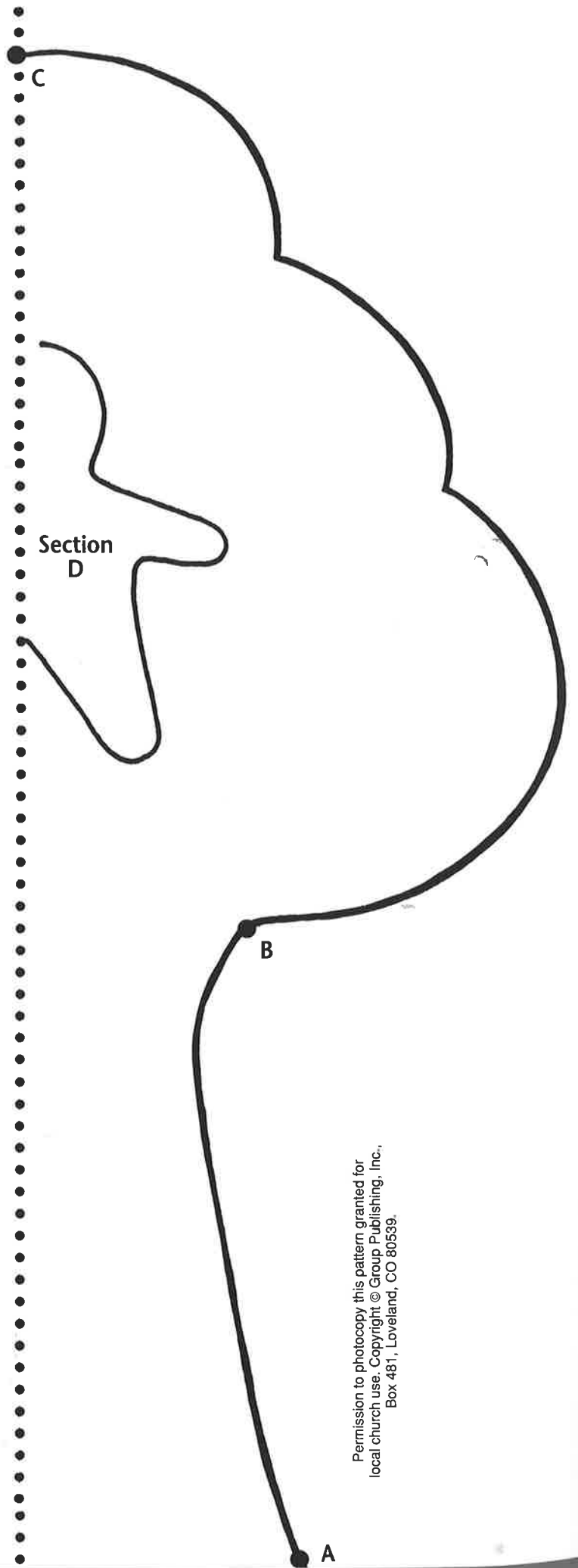
Zacchaeus was surprised. But he came down quickly.



 Gently and quickly tear off the Zacchaeus figure and bring him down from the tree.

Zacchaeus and Jesus walked together to his house. As he was talking to Jesus, Zacchaeus decided to change his ways. He said, "I'll pay back all the money that I took from the people." How do you think Jesus felt when Zacchaeus decided to give the money back? *Let children respond.*

Jesus said, "Zacchaeus, this is a great day, because you have decided to do what's right."



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