



## “Parable of the Pharisee and Tax Collector”

Luke 18:9-14

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*What does it take to suffer a crushing defeat and still be classy?*

### Two Men (v. 9-10)

#### Pharisee:

- They were \_\_\_\_\_ and despised others. (v.9)
- They were a strict legalistic religious party, known for their observance of the Law and outward piety.
- “Pharisee” means “separated one”
- Their emphasis on the Law led to an overemphasis on the \_\_\_\_\_ instead of the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - o Matt. 23:27-28; Matt. 6:2; Matt. 6:5

**APPLICATION:** We all have a little bit of Pharisee in us...

#### Tax Collector:

- They were Jews that collected taxes for Rome. They were considered \_\_\_\_\_ and liars.
- They were excluded from the Synagogue fellowship and considered the \_\_\_\_\_ of sinners.

**APPLICATION:** Who in this parable do you most identify with?

### Two Prayers (v. 11-13)

#### How did the Pharisee pray?

- His posture painted a picture of a self-righteous man standing loud and proud, front and center. His entire posture signifies \_\_\_\_\_ and self-righteousness.
- His prayer was all about \_\_\_\_\_.

#### How did the Tax Collector Pray?

- His posture painted a picture of a humble man standing toward the back, not feeling worthy. His entire posture signifies \_\_\_\_\_ and brokenness.
- His prayer was a humble plea for \_\_\_\_\_ and forgiveness.
- “be merciful” is the verb form of the word for “mercy seat.” What was the mercy seat and its significance? (Ex. 25:20-22; Lev. 16)
- How did Jesus teach us to pray? (Matt. 6:9-11)
  - o Real prayer is \_\_\_\_\_ - centered, not \_\_\_\_\_ - centered.

**APPLICATION:** How is your prayer life? What is your prayer posture?

### Two Results (v. 14)

#### The Primary Lesson:

- \_\_\_\_\_ is a legal term that means to declare someone just or righteous. To be justified meant to be declared right before God.
- The Pharisees \_\_\_\_\_ themselves. (Luke 16:14-15)
- The Doctrine of “Justification by Faith” addresses whether someone is justified by grace or works. The Pharisee thought his good deeds would justify him, while the Tax Collector knew he needed God’s mercy.
  - o Rom. 3:23-24; 5:8; Eph. 2:8-9, Gal. 3:11; 2:16; 2:21

#### The Secondary Lesson:

- \_\_\_\_\_ is what God requires. (Jm. 4:6-10; 1 Pet. 5:5)

**APPLICATION:** Are you self-justified or humble?

### Five practical ways to keep your pride in check:

- \_\_\_\_\_ about it.
- Be Thankful.
- \_\_\_\_\_.
- Humbly ask for feedback.
- \_\_\_\_\_ more, \_\_\_\_\_ about yourself less.

**We all need to pray that simple prayer –**  
**“God be merciful to me a sinner.”**

**NEXT STEPS?**