

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

February 7, 2021

START CONVERSATION

What are you really good at? What are you really bad at? How do the things you do well and the things you do poorly make you feel?

READ THE TEXT

- Read Luke 18:9-14

DISCUSS THE SERMON

1. Discuss some of the distinctions Jesus made between these two individuals in the way they approached God?
2. In those days, a Pharisee would have typically been considered the righteous one. What does this parable indicate it really means to be righteous?
3. How does this parable confront the human tendency that tries to make ourselves more presentable to God?
4. Based on this parable, what do you think it means that God exalts the humble and humbles those who exalts themselves?

APPLY THE TRUTH

1. Why do you think it so tempting for us to compare ourselves with others? Based on this parable, why is this dangerous to do?
2. Have you ever felt that God's love and acceptance of you was based on something you did or did not do? How did that affect the way you thought, prayed, interacted with others, etc.
3. Describe how consistent and honest confession of our sin before God cultivates a genuine heart of humility.

4. Have different individuals read the following verses: Psalm 86:5, 130:3-4; Isaiah 55:6-7; Micah 7:18-19; 1 John 1:5-2:2. Discuss how these truths free us to not hide our sin, but to humbly and honestly own up to our sin before God.
5. As a whole, would our church be more accepting of people that “have it all together” or of those who don’t, but honestly own up to it? How can you as an individual member help our church grow in being more like God in this?

PRAY WITH & FOR ONE ANOTHER

1. Praise God that He is a God of great mercy and forgiveness!
2. Praise God for the assurance of forgiveness we have based on of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus!
3. Pray that God would help us to repent of spiritual pride and to live in humble honesty before God and others.
4. Pray that our church would reflect the loving grace and mercy of God to others.

Other Prayer Needs:

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