

PARABLES

JESUS THE STORYTELLER

Sunday, June 12, 2022 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Part 3 | **Where's Your Confidence?**

Luke 18:9-14

Some trust in **THEIR OWN** goodness (v. 9-12)

the Pharisee

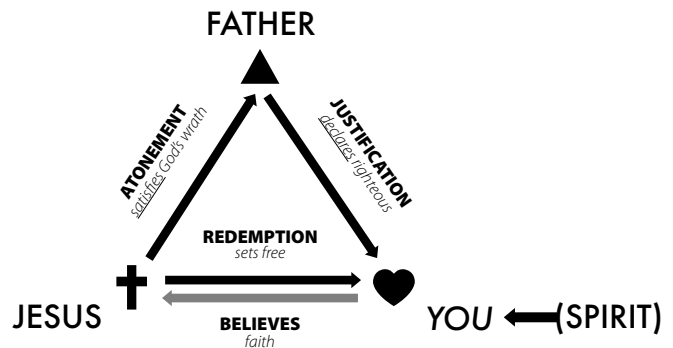
and others trust in **JESUS'S** goodness, (v. 13)

the Tax Collector

but only one leads to **LIFE**. (v. 14)

pride v. humility *Biblical Humility = "to know your place"*

Where's your confidence?





Food for Thought...

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

Prayer is a kind of litmus test of our relationship with God. Our prayers reveal who and what is most important to us. They expose our innermost feelings about ourselves and about God.

In this parable we overhear the prayers of two men. Jesus told this story to people “who looked down on everyone else.” It is a parable which speaks against spiritual pride and judgmentalism. **Read Luke 18:9–14.**

1. How would you retell the story of the two men, using modern characters?
2. Put yourself in the Pharisee’s place. What would this experience of seeing oneself as superior feel like?
3. The Pharisee addresses God, but to what extent does God occupy his attention? Explain.
4. What do **verses 11–12** reveal about how the Pharisee sees himself? What does this reveal about his attitude toward God?
5. How often does the Pharisee compare himself with others (**v. 11**)? How does it affect you when you compare yourself with those you look down on?
6. Put yourself in the tax collector’s place. What do you imagine he is thinking and feeling?

7. How does the way the tax collector views himself (**v. 13**) contrast with how the Pharisee views himself?
8. Notice the positions, postures and gestures of the Pharisee and the tax collector. What conclusions can we draw from these contrasts in their body language?
9. In the first century, Pharisees were viewed with great respect, while tax collectors were despised as traitors. Why then was the tax collector justified rather than the Pharisee (**v. 14**)?
10. In what ways are we tempted to feel spiritually superior to others today?
11. What, in your experience, is the relationship between awareness of our need for God’s mercy and genuine humility?

Thank God for his mercy and forgiveness toward you.

Now or Later: Write a letter (not to be sent) to someone you have judged. In the letter, ask for forgiveness. Notice any changes this creates in the way you feel about the person.

This week’s Food for Thought is taken from John White, *Parables: The Greatest Stories Ever Told: 12 Studies for Individuals or Groups, A LifeGuide Bible Study* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Connect: An Imprint of InterVarsity Press, 1999), 38-40.



Life Groups Return In the Fall!

Each fall and spring people from Wawasee Bible meet regularly in small groups to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups and they meet in various homes and on campus. If you really want to connect and grow, you should get in a Life Group! — *Most groups take a break for the summer, so if you’re interested, look for sign-ups in August or let us know on the digital Connect Card at wawasee.today or stop by the Connect Desk. Look for other opportunities to connect outside of Life Groups throughout the summer.*

C H O F L E N A L S O M E
V T H A N K D F T C T P T
T R U S T E D D C D H A P
I E X T O R T I O N E R S
T A P A E I F L L P R A Y
H T B N X G T O L D U B C
E E S D A H H T E M P L E
S D P I L T U T C P U E T
N C O N T E M P T G I V E
K X P G S O B C O T P E E
X T I B D U L U R W E N T
P H A R I S E E L I K E P
V U X Y G E D E X C V I L
B S A D U L T E R E R S Y

Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week’s message.

Word Find for Luke 18:9-14 (ESV)

*Find the words **bolded** below.*

⁹He **also told** this **parable** to **some** who **trusted** in themselves that they were **righteous**, and **treated others** with **contempt**. ¹⁰Two men **went** up into the **temple** to **pray**, one a **Pharisee** and the **other** a tax **collector**. ¹¹The **Pharisee**, **standing** by himself, **prayed thus**: ‘God, I **thank** you that I am not **like other** men, **extortioners**, unjust, **adulterers**, or **even like** this tax **collector**. ¹²I **fast twice** a week; I **give tithes** of all that I get.’ ¹³But the tax **collector**, **standing** far off, would not **even** lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴I tell you, this man **went** down to his house justified, rather than the **other**. For everyone who **exalts** himself will be **humbled**, but the one who **humbles** himself will be **exalted**.”