



TALES
OF
THE
KINGDOM

📍 New Life Christian Center
July 28, 2024

Pastor Brett Avery | Turlock
Pastor Jeremy Moore | Patterson

“CHASING ACCEPTANCE”

KEY PASSAGE:

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men - robbers, evildoers, adulterers - or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” Luke 18:9-14

BIG IDEA:

God responds to my _____ with truth, but my _____ with grace!



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BIG IDEA:

God responds to my PRIDE with truth, but my HUMILITY with grace!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

July 28, 2024



[CONNECT]

Why is humility such an appealing quality in a person?

[ENGAGE]

What impacted you the most personally from the message?

[GROW]

Observation Questions

1. What are the key differences between the Pharisee's and the tax collector's prayers in Luke 18:9-14?
2. Why do you think Jesus chose a Pharisee and a tax collector to illustrate His point about humility and self-righteousness?
3. How does the Pharisee's prayer reflect the cultural mindset of self-promotion and comparison?
4. How does the tax collector's prayer demonstrate a life of humble dependence on God?
5. Reflect on your own prayer life. Do you find yourself more like the Pharisee, listing your good deeds, or like the tax collector, acknowledging your need for God's mercy? How can you shift towards a more humble approach?
6. In what ways do you compare yourself to others, either spiritually or in everyday life? How can you focus more on your own relationship with God rather than comparing yourself to others?
7. How can you practice living a life of humble dependence on God this week? Are there specific actions or prayers you can incorporate into your daily routine to remind yourself of your need for His mercy and grace?

[LEAD (YOURSELF)]

What practical steps can you take to ensure your good deeds and religious practices are motivated by genuine love for God rather than a desire to impress others?