



June 9, 2019

The Lesson of the Rejected that Became the Redeemed

Luke 18:9-14

Series Summary

Jesus was a master storyteller and often he would illustrate a Kingdom principle or one of life's "Big Lessons" in the form of a short story known as a parable. Join us in this series as we learn some of God's most valuable lessons to help us understand the depth of God's love for the wayward, wounded, and persistent.

Main Text

Luke 18:9-14 (ESV) – ⁹He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: ¹⁰“Two 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.”

Big Idea – Two Prayers, Two Hearts, One Lesson...Choose the Path of Humility

Three Timeless Truths Taught by Jesus

The Audience

Truth #1 – Beware of Self-Righteousness: Do Not Trust in Yourself More than the Lord

Luke 18:9 (ESV) – ⁹He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt...

Romans 10:1-4 (ESV) – ¹Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. ²For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. ³For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. ⁴For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

The Analogy

Truth #2 – The Law of Contrast: Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit Not the Plans of the Proud

Luke 18:10-13 (ESV) – ¹⁰“Two 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!’

Matthew 5:3 (ESV) – Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

The Axiom

Truth #3 – The Principle of the Proverb: Look to the Lord with a Humble Heart to Gain the Gift of Victory

Luke 18:14 (ESV) – 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.

James 4:6 (ESV) – ⁶But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

Memory Verse

Luke 14:11 (ESV) – For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

Challenge:

You are called to consistently apply the divine principles and truths found in the Word of God. Take the next step in your study by (1) Discussing and applying the sermon with your small group or (2) Participating in a Sunday School class.