

Sermon Study Guide – Luke 18:9-14

Andre Riendeau

Week of January 8, 2023

Title: “The Pharisee and the Tax Collector”

Sermon Idea: The humble prayer is the one heard by God.

Key Points:

Am I like the...

1. Pharisee who pridefully looks down on others and expects God’s blessing?
2. Tax Collector who humbly throws himself on the mercy of God?

What do I want people to know? I want people to know that we can only be justified before God through faith in Christ, the mercy and grace of God. In light of that, we are to take a posture of humility before God and others.

What do I want people to do? I want people to (1) prayerfully review the Proud/Humble chart, (2) confess any known pride/self-righteous attitudes, (3) treat others with grace instead of judgment.

What need am I addressing? I am addressing the need for living humbly before God and others.

Recommended Resources: “*The Power of Humility*,” R.T. Kendall; “*The Spirit of Christ*,” Andrew Murray

Intro: If you’ve been participating in the 21 Days of Prayer, how has it impacted you so far? What prayers have challenged you?

Dig:

Day 1: Luke 18:9-14 is the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector. Compare and contrast what you know about Pharisees and tax collectors in the first century. Who would be modern equivalents to these ones?

Day 2: Browse Luke 18:15-43. Luke has placed these stories strategically. What connections can you make between our parable and these other stories? What is Luke trying to communicate to us in putting them together?

Day 3: Hebrews 2:14-18 contains the word “make atonement” which is the other occurrence of the word translated “mercy” in Luke 18:13. What does this word mean? What is the tax collector asking for?

Day 4: Romans 14:3-10 corrects a major problem in the early church. What was it? What is Paul asking the church to do?

Day 5: Psalm 139:23-24 is a prayer of examen. What is hard about saying this kind of prayer? What is required in order for God to answer this prayer?

Apply:

- Who are you more like in your relations with God and people? The Pharisee or the tax collector? Explain.
- Prayerfully review the Proud/Humble chart and confess anything the Spirit points out.
- Is there anyone who’ve shown disdain towards? Ask God to help you see them as He does.

Pray: Dear God, have mercy on me, a sinner! Search me and know my heart and mind. Give me a pure and humble heart.
