



CHRISTIAN EMBASSY

EFFECTING CHANGE THROUGH GODLY LEADERSHIP:
A STUDY IN DANIEL
Luke 18:9-14

Parables make up over one-third of all of Christ’s recorded teachings. Many of Jesus’ stories contrasted the life choices and worldviews of two main characters. In this parable, we are confronted with two men, a Pharisee and a Tax-Collector, and how they approached God.

Characters:

Pharisee – a member of a Jewish religious group that was strict in keeping the law and following ceremonies. They were respected for being devoted and godly people.

Tax Collector – a Jewish person employed by the government (Rome) to collect taxes. They were often dishonest and took more money than was right in order to become wealthy. They were considered traitors for working with the Romans and were hated by the people.

1. To whom was this parable addressed? (9)

2. Contrast the external postures and internal attitudes of the two praying men in this story.

	PHARISEE	TAX-COLLECTOR
External Posture and Words		
Internal Attitudes		



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3. Before hearing what Jesus said in verse 14, which man would Jesus' listeners have thought to be right before God? Why?

4. What seems to be the goal of each man's prayer?

5. It is often said that "religion" is our attempt to please God and therefore earn His favor. A relationship with God however is only possible on His terms. According to this parable, what makes it possible for one to be "justified before God"?

In what ways does Jesus' conclusion run counter-cultural to the society we live in or to that of your home country? (14)

How do verses 15-17 of chapter 18 reinforce what Jesus was teaching in this parable?

8. In what ways has this parable challenged your thinking?

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*But as many as received Him,
To them He gave the right to become children of God.
John 1:12*

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