

PARABLES: THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS

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Pastor Steve

The Pharisee And The Tax Collector

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

John 8:31-32

⁹ Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else: ¹⁰ "Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: 'I thank you, God, that I am not a sinner like everyone else. For I don't cheat, I don't sin, and I don't commit adultery. I'm certainly not like that tax collector! ¹² I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.' ¹³ "But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.' ¹⁴ I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Luke 18:9-14

I) Actors:

- A) The _____.
- B) The Pharisee.
- C) The Tax Collector.
- D) God.

II) Actions: Types of Prayer Life

- A) A _____ prayer life.
- B) An _____ prayer life.
- C) A _____ prayer life.

How to Have a Powerful Prayer Life:

I) Every _____ make time to _____.

- A) Never stop praying. 1 Thessalonians 5:17
- B) But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. Matthew 6:6

II) Don't get the _____.

- A) The Pharisee had a prideful attitude towards _____.
- B) The Pharisee had a prideful attitude towards _____.
- C) I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." Luke 18:14

III) Take off _____ before I pray.

"When you pray, don't babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. Matthew 6:7

IV) Remember it's not just _____.

A) Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7

B) Four types of prayer:

- 1) _____ - pray for yourself.
- 2) _____ - ask for forgiveness.
- 3) _____ - pray for others.
- 4) _____ - thank God for what He's done.

V) Never, never _____.

A) The Parable of the Friend Who Asks. Luke 11:5-13

B) "And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Luke 11:9-10

VI) God is _____, so pray _____.

A) So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most. Hebrews 4:16

B) God is _____ than whatever it is you're praying about.

C) But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! John 15:7