



The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Lesson Aim: To know God looks at the attitude of our hearts, not our deeds.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Teaches

THE WORD

Bible Story: Luke 18:9-14

What He has done: Jesus taught about the importance of a humble attitude.

Key Verse: Luke 18:14

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Jeremiah 9:23-24

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." "Jesus said, 'Go and bear fruit - fruit that will last - then the Father will give you whatever you ask in My Name.'" Galatians 5:22-23; John 15:16b

Unit 6: The King Who Teaches—Parables 2			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
28	The Rich Fool, Luke 12:15-21; Matthew 6:19-21	Jesus taught about a rich man who stored up things for himself.	To know we find our security in God, not in our possessions.
29	The Talents, Matthew 25:14-30	Jesus taught about a master who entrusted his servants with money.	To know we should be faithful with whatever God gives us.
30	The Pharisee and the Tax Collector, Luke 18:9-14	Jesus taught about the importance of a humble attitude.	To know God looks at the attitude of our hearts, not our deeds.
31	The Lost Son, Luke 15:11-24	Jesus taught about a father who welcomed his lost son home.	To know God always welcomes us back to Him. (Salvation Message)
32	The Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-37	Jesus taught about a man who was a good neighbor.	To show kindness and love sacrificially.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Philippians 4:5-7. Please join us in praying, "Thank you, Lord, for supplying all that we need to teach Your children. Help us lead by example as we trust You to take care of everything. Amen."

TREASURE TREAT

The Treasure Treat for Units 5 and 6 is a Kingdom Parable Journal. Each week, children receive Kingdom Parable Stickers to add to their journal. The journal and stickers are available at Resourcewell.org. You may print the stickers on sticker paper or on sturdy paper and attach with glue.

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Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Heart Relay Race	Large sturdy paper heart for each team
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song: "The Fruit of the Spirit" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "I Am the Way" "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" "Well Done" "Yahweh Every Day: You Shall Love the Lord" Additional Hymn Suggestion: "Amazing Grace" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Songs 4 Worship Kids Volume 1 Sunday School Jamz by Worship Jamz
		Worship Scripture Reading: Philippians 2:3-4	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 30 Critter Kingdom script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Luke 18:9-14	Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discuss the Word	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, sturdy paper heart, highlighters
		Christ Connection: Jeremiah 9:23-24	
		Golden Bowl	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
GOT TIME?	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—The Pharisee and the Tax Collector Kingdom Parable Stickers, W ³ , paper, pencils, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "The Fruit of the Spirit," CD player
	Up to 10	Snack: Humble Hearts	Heart-shaped snack
	Up to 10	Game: Hidden Heart	Small paper heart or heart-shaped object
	Up to 10	Craft: Parable Wind Chimes—The Pharisee and the Tax Collector	Ribbon, large bead, sturdy red paper, cotton balls, glue, tape, markers, scissors, hole punch
	Up to 5	Bonus Parable: The Wheat and the Weeds	Bible open to Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43, The Wheat and the Weeds Parable Stickers (available at ResourceWell.org)
	Up to 5	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Fruit Concentrate	Orange paper, marker, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Fruit of the Spirit Hopscotch	Stone, bottle cap, or shell colored like a fruit, chalk or floor tape, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster, paint or markers
	Up to 5	Kingdom Parable Review	Parable titles printed on footprint-shaped paper

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: What is your favorite thing about God?

GAME: HEART RELAY RACE

Purpose: To introduce the heart theme which connects with the lesson aim.

Supplies: Large sturdy paper heart for each team

Today, we will learn God looks at the attitude of our hearts, not our deeds. To remember how important our hearts are to God, let's play this heart relay race.

Directions:

1. Each team stands in a single file line, one child behind the other.
2. Give the first child in each line a sturdy paper heart.
3. On your signal, the first child passes the heart over his/her head to the second child.
4. The second child passes the heart through his/her legs to the third child.
5. Each player, in turn, alternates passing the heart over or under until the heart reaches the last child in line.
6. When the last child receives the heart, he/she runs to the front of the line and starts to pass the heart overhead again.
7. Repeat until everyone is in their original positions. Instruct teams to sit when they are done.
8. Play until all the teams are finished.



Jesus as the King who teaches

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.

Today, we worship Jesus as our Teacher. Through His parables, Jesus teaches us about God's kingdom. In the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector, we will learn God is pleased with humble hearts. Humble means not proud. It means treating others as more important. When we confess our sins to Him and focus on who He is and what He has done instead of focusing on our own importance, that's worship!



Read Philippians 2:2-3.

In today's story, the tax collector confessed that he was a sinner. We are all sinners- because we all have done wrong in God's eyes. Let's take a moment of silent confession now to ask God to forgive our sins.



Today's story mentions fasting (not eating) and giving ten percent of all we have. When fasting and giving ten percent is done with a humble heart, these are great ways to worship God. However, if we do these things in order to look down on others, that is not acceptable worship. Let's take time now to humbly worship God with our offerings and with our songs of worship. Sing: "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" while collecting the offering. Sing Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, "The Fruit of the Spirit." You may also choose to sing songs that focus on forgiveness and the cleansing of our hearts.



Perform Critter Kingdom script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 6, Lesson 30.



The Pharisee and the tax collector

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word—knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we learned about the Parable of the Talents. In that parable, two of the servants used the money called talents that their master gave them to make more money for their master. Their master was pleased and said to them, "Well done, good and faithful servant!" Today we will learn about the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector. In Bible times, Pharisees were a respected group of religious Jews who strictly obeyed the Law of Moses; tax collectors were not respected because they cheated the people out of their money.



Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Luke 18:9-14. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Luke 18:14.**

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds to His Word today. Who'd like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

As I read, imagine Jesus Himself telling us this story. Read Luke 18:9-14.



Humble hearts **THE WAY**

Jesus told this parable to a certain group of people. How does the Bible describe them? (People who were “confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else.”) **To be confident of their own righteousness means they were sure their own good deeds made them right with God. They were incorrect because the Bible explains it is not our good deeds but faith in Jesus that makes us right with God. What does it mean to “look down on others”?** (Children respond.)

Why do you think Jesus told them this story? (Children respond.) **What was the difference between the Pharisee’s prayer and the tax collectors’ prayer?** (The Pharisee bragged and looked down on others. The tax collector humbly asked for mercy.) **What good things did the Pharisee brag about doing?** (Fasting twice a week, giving a tenth of his money.) **God is pleased with good deeds when we do them for the right reason. Why do you think God was not pleased with the Pharisee?** (Children respond.) **Instead of looking down on others, the Pharisee should have been looking at his own sin. He should have been asking God for forgiveness as the tax collector did. Instead of praising himself, the Pharisee should have been praising God!**

What does a humble heart mean to you? (Children respond.) **Those with humble hearts do not judge others. They treat others as more important than themselves. To be humble we must put away all our pride. The tax collector humbly asked for mercy – that means he asked for God to forgive him instead of giving him the punishment he deserved for his sins.**

To be justified before God means to be forgiven by God and in a right relationship with Him. Even though the Pharisee did good things, which man was justified? (The tax collector.)

Do you know someone who is looked down upon for something he or she has done? (Children respond.) **If you are ever tempted to look down on someone, or to brag about yourself remember this parable and be sure to ask God to give you a humble heart!**



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

God is not pleased when we boast or brag about ourselves. 600 years before Jesus told this parable, Jeremiah explained what God says about boasting.



FIND IT FIRST > **Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap.** Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Jeremiah 9:23-24. **Let’s see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read Jeremiah 9:23-24.

What does God say we can boast about? (Understanding and knowing Him.) **Let’s boast about Him now by praising Him with this heart of praise.** Display a paper heart. **When you hold the heart of praise, it is your turn to praise God for something He has done either in Bible times or in your own life.** Pass the paper heart, encouraging each child to praise God for a specific act or character attribute such as all-knowing, all-powerful, kind, faithful, etc.

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

The Bible says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is the Pharisee and the Tax Collector Kingdom Parable Sticker. You will also receive a bonus sticker for the Parable of the Wheat and the Weeds (see Bonus Parable in GOT TIME?). You can discover more about this parable in this week's W³. Keep your Kingdom Parable Journal at home and collect all twenty Kingdom Parable Stickers by joining us here each time.

W³: Take home today's W³ Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together at home in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W³ Journal Entry #30. Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of the Pharisee and the tax collector praying. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, "The Fruit of the Spirit," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: HUMBLE HEARTS

Purpose: To remind children God honors the prayers of a humble heart.

Snack Suggestion: Heart-shaped snack

In today's parable, the two men went to the temple to pray. The tax collector prayed with a humble heart. That means he was not proud. He knew he was a sinner. God forgave the tax collector because he humbly asked for forgiveness.

Directions:

1. Distribute snack and drinks.
2. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"What is your favorite place to pray?"**

GAME: HIDDEN HEART

Purpose: To remind children that God sees our hearts.

Supplies: Small paper heart or heart-shaped object

In today's parable, we see God wants us to pray with a humble heart. God is the only one who can truly see our hearts. In this game, we will help each other find the hidden heart.

Directions:

1. Choose one child to hide the heart. Choose another child to find the heart.
2. The finder closes his or her eyes, while the hider silently hides the heart.
3. On your signal, the finder opens his or her eyes and searches for the heart.
4. The class helps the finder locate the heart by yelling "warmer" when he or she is moving toward the heart and "colder" when he or she is moving away from the heart.
5. When the finder locates the heart, choose a new finder and a new hider and play again.
6. Repeat game until each child has played one or both roles.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: PARABLE WIND CHIMES– THE PHARISEE AND THE TAX COLLECTOR

Purpose: Create a wind chime strand to remember the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector.

Supplies: Ribbon, large bead, sturdy red paper, cotton balls, glue, tape, markers, scissors, hole punch

Prepare: Cut a 20-inch ribbon. Cut two 4-inch hearts from sturdy red paper. To keep the wind chime balanced, punch a hole about 1-inch from the edge, directly opposite from the strand attached in the previous lesson.

Optional: Use a large bead to secure the 20-inch ribbon above the plate. Substitute beads with any materials available: buttons, shells, stones, small metal objects, etc. Display a finished craft.

Teacher Clue: Parable Wind Chimes will be completed in Lessons 23-32 as the parables of Jesus are taught. Each session, a new strand representing the parable will be added to the paper plate base of the wind chimes. To maintain balance in the wind chimes as they are being created, punch holes directly opposite from each other when adding a new strand. Be sure to have extra paper plates and 30-inch ribbon hangers available for new children who come in future sessions.

Today, we heard the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector. Why do you think the Pharisee's prideful prayer did not please God? (He bragged and looked down on others.) **Why do you think God forgave the tax collector?** (He prayed humbly and was truly sorry.) **Let's make a heart wind chime strand to remind us to have humble hearts.**

Directions:

1. Thread the 20-inch ribbon through the hole on the edge of the plate and tie a knot large enough to prevent the ribbon from pulling back through the plate.
2. Tie a bead to the bottom of the 20-inch ribbon.
3. Lay one heart on the table.
4. Cover one side of it with glue – middle and edges.
5. Lay the ribbon down the middle of the heart.
6. Place two cotton balls in the middle of the heart.
7. Lay the second heart on top of the first heart so the cotton balls are enclosed inside.

BONUS PARABLE: THE WHEAT AND THE WEEDS

Purpose: To introduce and discuss another parable Jesus taught His followers.

Supplies: Bible open to Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43, The Wheat and the Weeds Parable Stickers (available at ResourceWell.org)

Today's bonus parable is the story of the wheat and the weeds. Volunteer reads Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43. **The man in the parable who sowed the seeds stands for Jesus. Who does the enemy stand for?** (The devil.) **Jesus said the weeds stand for everything that causes sin and all who do evil. The servants were told not to remove the weeds because some of the wheat could be hurt as they did it. Just as harvesters will one day come and remove the weeds, angels will one day come and remove all the evildoers.**

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." "Jesus said, 'Go and bear fruit - fruit that will last - then the Father will give you whatever you ask in My Name.'" Galatians 5:22-23; John 15:16b

GAME: FRUIT CONCENTRATE

Purpose: Children will match pairs of fruit of the Spirit listed in the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Orange paper, marker, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster

Prepare: Cut 18 6-inch circles to resemble the shape of (oversized) orange fruit. Create two identical sets, printing one of the nine fruits of the Spirit on each of the orange circles (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control). Display the Bible Memory Verse poster.

Directions:

1. Choose a child to shuffle all 18 oranges, keeping the printed side down.
2. Choose another child to lay all 18 oranges face down on the floor or a table.
3. Children take turns turning over two oranges at a time to see if they can find a match.
4. When a correct match is made, the pair remains in the face-up position.
5. When an incorrect match is made, both are returned to the face-down position.
6. Continue making matches until all of the words are face-up.

Who can remember all nine fruits of the Spirit? (Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.) **The opposite of love is hate. What are the opposites of the other fruits of the Spirit?** (Children respond.)

Name a fruit of the Spirit that others already see in your daily life. (Children respond.) **Name a fruit of the Spirit that others rarely see in you.** (Children respond.) **All who believe in Jesus have the Holy Spirit in their hearts. This week, ask God to help you show the fruit of the Spirit that others don't usually see in you.**

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT HOPSCOTCH

Purpose: Children learn the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse by repetition as they play hopscotch.

Supplies: One stone, bottle cap, or shell, one piece of chalk or floor tape, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster, paint or markers

Prepare: Paint or color the stone, bottle cap, or shell to look like a fruit. Use chalk or floor tape to create a hopscotch pattern on the floor. Use 10 squares for your hopscotch pattern. Number the squares consecutively. Display the Bible Memory Verse poster. For large groups of children, create additional hopscotch patterns and provide additional "fruit" to toss so groups can play simultaneously.

Teacher Clue: Assist younger children by having all children chant the words with each hop the child takes. Assist in "fruit" toss as needed.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a single-file line at the bottom of the hopscotch pattern.
2. The first child tosses the "fruit" into square number 1.
3. The child then hops through the hopscotch pattern, skipping the square with the fruit marker. With each hop in squares 2-10, the child says one word of the first part of the Bible Memory Verse: **"The—fruit—of—the—Spirit—is—love—joy—peace..."**
Note: Single squares are hopped on one foot, either foot may be used. Both feet are used in side by side squares, one foot in each square.
4. After hopping into square number 10, the child turns around and returns through the course saying the rest of the first part of the Bible Memory Verse in squares 9-2, again skipping the square with the fruit marker: **"...patience—kindness—goodness—faithfulness—gentleness—and—self—control."**
5. The next child in line tosses the "fruit" into square number 2.
6. The child then hops through the hopscotch pattern, skipping the square with the fruit marker. With each hop, the child says one word of the second part of the Bible Memory Verse: **"Go—and—bear—fruit—fruit—that—will—last.—Then..."**
7. After hopping into square 10, the child turns around and returns through the course saying the rest of the first part of the Bible Memory Verse again skipping the square with the fruit marker: **"...the—Father—will—give—you—whatever—you—ask—in—My Name."** Say "My Name" in the last square.
8. Repeat steps 2-7 each time, tossing the "fruit" into the next square in numerical order until everyone has had a turn. If there are more than nine children in line, have the next child return to tossing the "fruit" in square number 1.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



KINGDOM PARABLE REVIEW

Kings & Kingdoms Part One studies the life of Jesus. Lessons 23-32 explore the parables Jesus told to teach us about His kingdom. The previous lesson will always be reviewed briefly in THE WORD segment of each Teacher's Guide. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and He has done.

The Rich Fool: What did Jesus warn us to be on guard against? (All kinds of greed.) **What did the rich fool do when he had no more room for his grain and goods?** (He tore down his barns to build bigger ones.) **How can we be rich toward God?** (Give our offering, use our time and treasures to focus on Him and to serve our neighbors.)

The Talents: In Bible times, a talent was a large amount of money. **What did the first two servants do with the money they were given?** (They made more money for their master.) **What did the master say to the first two servants?** ("Well done, good and faithful servant. Come and share your master's happiness.") **How can you serve God with the gifts and blessings He has given you?**

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector: Describe the Pharisee's prayer. (He bragged about fasting and giving his offering. He looked down on the tax collector.) **How was the tax collector's prayer different?** (He humbly asked for mercy as a sinner.) **To be justified by God is to be forgiven and in a right relationship with God. Which man was justified by God?** (The tax collector.)

How to create a display for reviewing the Kingdom Parables:

1. Print each footprint on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the footprints.
3. Before each lesson, add the footprint for that lesson to the display using the list below. Children can follow in Jesus' footsteps as they review past lessons.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated footprint.

Kingdom Parables: The Lost Sheep > The Sower > The Vine and the Branches > The Workers in the Vineyard > The Great Banquet > The Rich Fool > The Talents > Lazarus and the Rich Man > The Lost Son > The Good Samaritan