



At-A-Glance: Ages 6-7  
Kings & Kingdoms Part 1: The Life of Jesus  
Unit 6, Lesson 30

# The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

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

## THE WELCOME

**MEET & GREET:** What is your favorite thing about God?

**GAME:** Heart Relay Race

## THE WORSHIP JESUS AS THE KING WHO TEACHES

Read Worship Scripture: Philippians 2:2-3.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform Critter Kingdom script or read storybook.

## THE WORD THE PHARISEE AND THE TAX COLLECTOR

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: Parable of the Talents.

**Today, we will hear the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector.** Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Luke 18:9-14. Pray. Read.

## THE WAY HUMBLE HEARTS

Jesus told this parable to people who were looking down on others. That means they thought of themselves as better than others. 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.)

In his prayer, the Pharisee bragged about himself and looked down on the tax collector. 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. The Pharisee's good deeds did not please God because the Pharisee was bragging and looking down on others. His heart was not humble. How do you think God feels about our bragging? How do you think He feels when we look down on others?

The tax collector humbly asked for mercy – that means he asked for God to forgive him. God forgave the tax collector. He wants us to have humble hearts as the tax collector did. He is not pleased if we look down on others for what they do, what they look like, or for any reason at all! He is not pleased when we brag and praise ourselves as the Pharisee did. He is pleased with a humble heart. 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.

## 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. Reveal Jeremiah 9:23-24. Read.

What does God say we can boast about? (Understanding and knowing Him.) Instead of praising himself, who should the Pharisee in today's parable have been praising? (God.) Let's boast about God now by praising Him with this heart of praise. Display a paper heart. When you hold the heart of praise, that means it's your turn to praise God for something He has done either in Bible times or in your own life. Pass 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 GOLDEN BOWL:** Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

## FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Pharisee and the Tax Collector Kingdom Parable Sticker
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Pharisee and the tax collector praying
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

## GOT TIME?

**SNACK:** Humble Hearts

**GAME:** Hidden Heart

**CRAFT:** Parable Wind Chimes–The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

**BONUS PARABLE:** The Wheat and the Weeds

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES:** Fruit Concentrate, Fruit of the Spirit Hopscotch

**KINGDOM PARABLE REVIEW**