



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
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. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: Luke 18:14. Pray. Read.

THE WAY HUMBLE HEARTS

Jesus told this parable to people who were looking down on others. What does it mean to “look down on 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? (Fasting, giving a tenth of his money.) God is pleased with good deeds when we do them for the right reason but the Pharisee was bragging and looking down on others. His heart was not humble. What does a humble heart mean to you?

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. God 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.

The tax collector asked for mercy; he asked 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? 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!

CHRIST CONNECTION:

God is not pleased when we brag about ourselves. 600 years before Jesus told this parable, Jeremiah explained what God says about boasting. Reveal Jeremiah 9:23-24. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

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, that means it’s 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 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