



**The Pharisee and the Tax Collector**  
**Week 5**  
**(Luke 18:9-14 ESV)**

A good story can communicate truth like few other things. Jesus was a master storyteller who used parables to explain truths about God and living in a way that honors Him. In this series, we'll learn from some of the parables of Jesus about the life that He invites us to live.

**CELEBRATION**

Celebrate the good work being done by the DC Serve volunteers this week! So many good stories coming out of this Faith in Action project that is touching so many different lives through these great community partnership organizations!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

DC Serve is this week! Join us for worship at Southview Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday night to celebrate what God is doing!

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. The two men (Pharisee and the tax collector) both came to the Temple to pray. Both stood apart from the crowd, but for very different reasons. One exemplified pride and the “I’m good enough” mentality; one exemplified humility before God and others. Which do you struggle with the most personally? How do you avoid the “comparison trap?”
2. Pastor William said “no person is too big a sinner to be saved.” Do you believe this? What about people who are committing sins you find most distasteful, or people who disagree with you? Why do you think we struggle with this simple truth?
3. The Great Reversal of Luke 18:4 would have shocked and scandalized the first hearers of this story. Because of Jesus’ teaching and life, humility became a virtue, not a vice. What are you doing to intentionally grow in this virtue?

**MOVING FORWARD**

Instead of asking “am I as good as someone else,” ask “am I as good as God?”  
Proper perspective helps clarify truth and reduce the blindness of pride.

**CHANGING YOUR MIND**

*“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”*  
— Luke 18:4 (ESV)