



DIGGING DEEPER

Luke 18v9-14 – The Pharisee & the Tax Collector

PLEASE READ – Luke 18v9-14

GETTING STARTED

Can you think of a time recently when you had to admit you were wrong and say sorry?

Why do you think we find it so hard to admit it when we are wrong?

1) TWO MEN

Why are the **Pharisees** often cast as the villains? Do you think that's fair?

What do we know about **tax collectors** in the Bible and how they were thought of by their own people? See Luke 5v30 / Luke 19v2 / Luke 19v8

Why then does v14 come as a bit of a shock?

2) TWO PRAYERS

What do we learn about the Pharisee from his posture in prayer as well as what he actually says to God?

Why do you think this guy has such an exalted view of himself?

In what ways can we be like the Pharisee?

What do we learn about the Tax Collector from his posture in prayer as well as what he actually asks of God? How is he different to the Pharisee?

What do WE need to learn from the Tax Collector?

3) TWO DESTINIES

Talk about the shocking reversal in v14...

How can we ensure that like the tax collector we too are humble and also remain humble before God?

Meditate on the words of the prophet Isaiah...

Isaiah 57v15: For this is what the high and exalted One says—
he who lives forever, whose name is holy:
“I live in a high and holy place,
but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly
and to revive the heart of the contrite.