

## THE STORY OF THE PHARISEE AND THE TAX COLLECTOR

Mike Howerton - Lead Pastor

*Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else: "Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: 'I thank you, God, that I am not like other people—cheaters, sinners, adulterers. I'm certainly not like that tax collector! I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.'* **Luke 18:9-12 NLT**

### It's never a good idea to \_\_\_\_\_

*Do not think of yourself more highly than you should. Instead, be modest in your thinking, and judge yourself according to the amount of faith that God has given you.* **Romans 12:3 GNT**

### We don't make ourselves right with God,

*Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith. So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.* **Romans 3:27,28 NLT**

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.* **Ephesians 2:8,9 NIV**

*"But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.' I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God.* **Luke 18:13-14a NLT**

### Its always a good idea to be \_\_\_\_\_

*For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."* **Luke 18:14b NLT**

*Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.* **Philippians 2:3 NLT**

*Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.* **James 4:10 NKJV**

*And all of you, dress yourselves in humility as you relate to one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."* **1 Peter 5:5 NLT**