

Children's Story – Honoring God with Humility

Luke 18:9-14

Have you ever heard anyone say, "My picture is better than yours" or "I can run faster than you"? Sometimes we think we are better than others. Jesus told this story to people who thought they were better than others. They didn't want to be friends with everyone.

Two people went to church to pray (*fold hands as if you are praying*). One was a religious person who kept many rules (*count on fingers*). The other was a tax collector who was looked down upon by others (*drop head*). The religious person thanked God that he was better than others (*make bold praying motions and say, "Thank you God that I am such a good person"*). He bragged to God about all the good things he did (*look proud and ask others, "Did you see all the good things I did?"*). But the tax collector bowed his head and quietly prayed to God (*make prayer motions, quietly pray*). He asked God for mercy and love (*quietly say, "God, forgive me. Give me your mercy. Fill me with your love"*).

Which person was living God's way? When we are humble we are living God's way. Humility means cooperating with others and caring for them. When we honor God in others we are being humble.

Invite the children to honor God in each other as they bless each other. Invite each child to stand as the rest of the children say together: "(child's name), God is in you!"

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