

Review:

Lesson 1: Joyful & Teachable

Lesson 5: Teach Us to Pray

Lesson 9: Lost Things, Pt. 1

Lesson 2: Spiritual Foundations

Lesson 6: Stewarding Our Stuff

Lesson 10: Lost Things, Pt. 2

Lesson 3: The Audience of Parables

Lesson 7: Self-Righteousness

Lesson 11: More On Stewardship

Lesson 4: What Love Looks Like

Lesson 8: Distractions, Excuses

Humility Luke 18:9-14

My self-righteousness can only survive when I compare myself with others. But as a Christ follower, that is not my correct standard. When I see myself in light of a _____ of God, when that becomes my comparison, my self-righteousness dies.

Discussion 1. If overcoming self-righteousness begins with a correct understanding of God, then what kinds of disciplines grow you in your understanding of God? Can you think of common examples from our culture of comparing ourselves to others?

Righteousness that comes from my own achievements or outward behavior is not a meaningful righteousness; only the righteousness that comes as a _____ from God can save me. Following Christ begins with this understanding.

Discussion 2. Why do you think we, as humans, seem to want to be able to earn our way into Heaven? What is it about being able to make myself righteous that so appeals to our way of thinking? How do you keep yourself from thinking that way?

If my prayers sound like a motivational speech or a sermon or a lawyer's closing argument or a pep rally, I may not be in touch with my _____.

Discussion 3. If you pray out loud with others, do you ever fall into the trap of praying more for those around you than for God? What practical steps can you take to help prevent that from happening?

Genuine prayer changes the one praying, and that change can only happen in a truly _____ in need of mercy. No matter what spiritual growth I am hoping for, the starting point is humility.

Discussion 4. In spiritual matters, what kinds of disciplines or circumstances help keep you humble? How do you stay "grounded" and desperately needing God's mercy?

Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?