

# MESSAGES

## PROPER CONFIDENCE

STORIES WORTH LIVING, THE GOSPEL OF LUKE PART 6 | PASTOR MATT ERICKSON

AUGUST 12/13, 2017 | LUKE 18:9-14

*"All those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." (Luke 18:14)*



# STUDY GUIDE

### The Situation (Luke 18:9-10)

The real-life situation for Jesus' teaching

The story's situation for the two men

### Two Different Approaches to God (Luke 18:11-13)

The Pharisee

- His prayer
- His view of God
- His view of himself
- His view of others

The Tax Collector

- His prayer
- His view of God
- His view of himself
- His view of others

### Proper Confidence (Luke 18:14)

In relation to God

In relation to ourselves

In relation to others

1. In what areas of your life are you most confident? What areas are you least confident? Is there a particular time you have felt either one of these things?
2. This weekend we continue exploring Jesus' parables by turning our attention to Luke 18:9-14. After beginning your study in prayer, ask God to speak to you, and then read that passage aloud.
3. Luke sets up this parable by telling us who Jesus was specifically addressing in verse 9. Who is Jesus speaking to?
4. Background: The parable has two characters, both of whom are going up to the Temple for prayer. Although the Temple was open for private prayer always, this is likely one of the public times of prayer at 9 AM or 3 PM.
5. How would you summarize the attitude and approach of the first man, the Pharisee (vs 11-12)?
6. How would you summarize the attitude and approach of the second man, the tax collector (vs 13)?
7. Which of these men do you relate with more? Why?
8. Jesus' summary statement in 18:14 echoes themes found in other parts of the Bible (Matthew 23:12; Luke 14:11; 1 Peter 5:6). What do you think this means? Try to put it into your own words.
9. What is one way that God is speaking to you personally through this study? Whether you are alone or with others, take some time in silence to interact with God from your heart about this. If you're on your own, write down what you are learning and share it with someone later. If you are with a small group, discuss your thoughts with one another.

# READING PLAN

To encourage us together in our growth with God, we arranged a weekday reading plan through this series. As you read each day, ask God to speak to you from His word.

August 14	Luke 18:9-14
August 15	Matthew 6:1-8
August 16	Luke 11:37-52
August 17	Matthew 23:1-12
August 18	Mark 12:38-40