

The Junior Observer

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Q&A

What parable did Jesus tell?

Which man went home justified?

Read more about it in Luke 18

A Good News Story

Jesus Talks about Being Humble

Catholic News Service

Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem to teach the people. When he taught them, he often used stories about things the people would be familiar with. These stories had a special name: parables.

Sometimes Jesus used parables to let the people know important information about God and heaven. And other times, he used parables as a way to answer questions or respond to the wrong things people were saying or doing.

One day, Jesus decided to tell a parable in response to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else.

“Two people went up to the Temple area to pray; one was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector,” Jesus began.

The Pharisees were members of a very influential religious party. Many times, Jesus chastised them for not practicing what they preached to the people.

In turn, the Pharisees did not like



Bible Trivia

What parable did Jesus tell in response to those who complained that he welcomed and ate with sinners and tax collectors? (Hint: Luke 15)

Answer: The parable of the lost sheep.

Jesus very much and were always trying to find ways to make him look bad in the eyes of the people.

Tax collectors were people who worked for the hated Roman Empire. They collected tax money from the people and often cheated them.

In turn, tax collectors were considered to be sinners, and the people did not like them and wanted nothing to do with them.

Jesus said that the Pharisee took up his position and said a silent prayer.

“O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity — greedy, dishonest, adulterous — or even like this tax collector,” the Pharisee prayed. “I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income.”

Jesus said that the tax collector prayed to God in a very different way. He stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven. He beat his chest as he began his prayer.

“O God, be merciful to me a sinner,” the tax collector prayed.

Jesus looked at the people as he finished his parable.

“I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted,” Jesus said.

Elgin Students Thank Police for Service, Visit



Students visit a police car.

As part of the national “Tell a Police Officer Thank you Day,” St. Mary preschool students in Elgin hosted the Elgin Police force to express their thanks for keeping their neighborhood safe. The festivities included a meet and greet session, a tour of a squad car, and a chance to hold or try on real police equipment. Father Christopher Kuhn, pastor, also blessed the visiting officers. This is the fourth year for this event at St. Mary and the children have enjoyed it each time.



ABOVE: An police officer talks with students.



LEFT: A student tries on a police vest.



An Elgin police officer reads a book to students.



(Photos provided)

Father Christopher Kuhn (center) blesses police officers.