



Small Groups

Parish Community of Saint Helen

Sunday, October 23, 2022
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Opening Song

[All Who Enter Here](#) ~ John Agnotti

Opening Prayer

Leaders' choice

Or

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self centered;
Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;
Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;
Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;
Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;
Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;
Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;
Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and your God;
It was never between you and them anyway. ~ *St. Mother Teresa*

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SaintHelen.org/Small-Groups

Jesus addressed this parable
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.

The Pharisee took up his position and spoke this prayer to himself,

'O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity --
greedy, dishonest, adulterous -- or even like this tax collector.

I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income.'

But the tax collector stood off at a distance

and would not even raise his eyes to heaven

but beat his breast and prayed,

'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.'

I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former;

for whoever exalts himself will be humbled,

and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Discussion Questions

1. Did any part of this weekend's message stand out or speak to you in a special way?
2. How do you feel about the Pharisee in this story?
3. How much of the Pharisee and the tax collector do you see in yourself or in others? Do you ever find yourself being boastful?
4. How did the tax collector demonstrate healthy humility?

5. In each of the following, which is closer to how you view yourself?
- a. I take responsibility for my short comings, or I make excuses
 - b. I see myself like God does or I focus on my inadequacies
 - c. I have a God confident attitude, or I have a self-defeating attitude

Closing Prayer

Ask for the group intentions ~ *Lord hear our prayer* after each

Glory Be to the Father,

And to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now

and ever shall be world without end.

Amen

Closing Song

[Tend the Ground](#) ~ Curtis Stephan

Looking Ahead

Readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/103022.cfm>

Readings: Wis 11:22-12:2, Ps 145, 2 Thes 1:11-2:2, Lk 19:1-10