

Worship October 23, 2022 – 19th Sunday after Pentecost
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church – Dade City Florida
Sermon Notes “Be Humble and Praise God.!”

If given the opportunity, who would you like to be like?

Have you ever seen a child step into a parent or grandparent’s shoes and attempt to walk around in oversized shoes?

Have you ever heard a child speak what appears to be an adult expression and wondered where they learned it?

What legacy would you like to leave to your children, grandchildren and future generations, if Jesus delays His return for that long?

Gospel contrasts humble tax collector and a Pharisee

Scripture challenge to reset mindset on humble service rather than seeking the highest place of honor in the public places.

Memory Verses: Luke 18:13-14 “...¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying ‘God, be merciful to me, a Sinner!’ ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Psalm 5:11 “But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you.”

be humble and rejoicing in the LORD pointing to Jesus Christ as our LORD and Savior.

In the parable in Luke 18, the Pharisee excludes himself from God's gift of righteousness, while the penitent tax collector embraces it. Beware of complacency of measuring our goodness against others. Measure by God's standards--then repent. God is ready to justify the worst of sinners by His generous grace in Christ.

**Song written by Robert Byron Hudson and published by Maranatha...
Humble Thyself in the sight of the Lord
Humble Thyself in the sight of the Lord
And He shall lift you up
Higher and Higher And He shall lift you up

Humble Thyself in the sight of the Lord...
And He shall lift you up
Higher and Higher And He shall lift you up...
Up into heaven and He shall lift you up.
(theme gets repeated)**

Pharisee's false self righteousness versus God's gift of everlasting life through Jesus Christ.

In Matthew's Gospel, chapter 23, Jesus similarly criticizes the Pharisees hypocrisy and obstinacy. ... Pharisees were guilty of not practicing what they were preaching. ...

Jesus clashed with the Pharisees, disagreeing with and correcting their teachings as can be seen in Matthew 12:1-8 and Matthew 15:1-20. Jesus stresses that where the Pharisees rightly interpret and uphold God's Word, their teaching should be affirmed and followed. At the same time, Jesus warns against their hypocrisy.

Because the Pharisees often went beyond God's commands when they interpreted the Law, Jesus described them as "laying heavy burdens" on the people. Eg. of Pharisees misuse of privilege...

Jesus corrected the practices of the Pharisees ...proper use of rabbi/father...

Jesus had previously defined greatness in terms of humble service.

God will exalt those who humbly serve for His sake. In contrast, the proud will be abased. After Jesus stated, "the greatest among you shall be your servant," Matthew reiterates the same summary message which was in our memory verse from Luke 18: 14...

"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted." (see also Luke 14:11)

Jesus illustrates how pride leads to humiliation.

Another Sunday School song had the words, “If you want to be great in God’s Kingdom, you must be the servant of all.”

The Apostle Paul had been trained as a Pharisee so he had known the law well, but as you can read in his letters, he sought not personal glory, but to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ and to boldly proclaim the truth of God’s Holy Word and to be a faithful example to Timothy to encourage Timothy to be faithful even in the midst of persecution.

Format of Psalm 5 ... format of prayer and sacrifice expressed in verse 1-3. Vs. 4-6 God’s hate, vs. 7-8 God’s love; vs. 9-10 prayer against enemies & 12 the announcement of blessing the righteous. God declares us righteous and thus covers us with His favor through faith in Christ’s atoning sacrifice for all of our sins.

Gary Wilkerson study on Psalms invites us to watch what God will do. Comparison with the humble, confident ask and the LORD’s prayer.

Another Sunday School song gives a humble request...

Change my heart oh God

Make it ever true

Change my heart oh God

May I be like You (Repeat from beginning of verse)

You are the potter

I am the clay

Mold me and make me

This is what I pray (Refrain is repeated)

May God give us hearts of humility and voices of praise...

Let’s Pray:

Lord Jesus, Thank you for being my Savior and Redeemer. Thank you for loving us enough to warn us when we stray from Your Word. Help us to humbly repent daily of our sin and help us to praise you without end.

Amen.