

# WORD OF THE WEEK Luke 18:9-14

Jesus told a story to some people who thought they were better than others and who looked down on everyone else.....



Two men went into the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood over by himself and prayed, “God, I thank you that I am not greedy, dishonest, and unfaithful in marriage like other people. And I am really glad that I am not like that tax collector over there. I go without eating for two days a week, and I give you one tenth of all I earn.” The tax collector stood off at a distance and did not think he was good enough even to look up toward heaven. He was so sorry for what he had done that he pounded his chest and prayed, “God, have pity on me! I am such a sinner.”

Then Jesus said, “When the two men went home, it was the tax collector and not the Pharisee who was pleasing to God. If you put yourself above others, you will be put down. But if you humble yourself, you will be honoured.



## **SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT**

Read the Gospel story again. Who are you most like in the story? The Pharisee who says “Thank God I’m not like that!”, or the tax collector who is humble and knows his limitations?



# SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

It is good to be confident in yourself and to always strive to be the best you can be. Yet, truly successful people strive not only to be their best, but to be great in how they treat others and celebrate their talents. For example, you may have seen a footballer who scores a goal, runs around the field and goes down on their knees to give thanks for their achievement. Or another player who scores but then runs around the field pointing at themselves and calling attention to his or her achievement. One of these people is being humble and grateful, while the other is being arrogant and boastful. Humility is about being modest, respectful and putting others before yourself. It is not calling attention to yourself or being rude. It is about gratitude. It is about good sportsmanship. Humility is not just for the sports field, it is something to apply to every aspect of your life. It is about being courteous and saying "please" and "thank you" all the time, not occasionally. It is about being able to apologise to others even if you are just slightly in the wrong. It is also about listening and open to learning from others. Being humble is recognising that everyone has different strengths and paying compliments to other people.

## SOMETHING TO DO

On a piece of paper write your name with the hand you usually write with. Then do the same with the opposite hand.

This simple exercise puts us in touch with something about ourselves - we're not (and can't be) good at everything! We are all built with strengths and weaknesses, and these things will vary from person to person.

Remembering this fact should allow us grow in humility - whilst we recognise our limitations, we also recognise and celebrate our giftedness!

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Year 10 go on retreat to Castlerigg. We hope they have a great retreat.



Breakfast with God in the Junior Dining Room on Friday. Join us for tea, toast and morning prayer!

## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Heavenly Father, help us to remember that when we build our life upon our own goodness, we are headed for a fall. Instead, let us put our trust in your goodness, so that our hearts will be open to receiving your life and love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

# HUMILITY

# 謙遜

"BE LIKE THE BAMBOO  
THE HIGHER YOU GROW  
THE DEEPER YOU BOW"

CHINESE PROVERB

