

August 19, 2018

***Back to the Basics:
The Pharisee in the Mirror***

A group of people who were

- Zealous for God •
- Committed to their faith •
- Theologically astute •
- Experts in the Bible •

They were the _____ of Jesus' day.

A Tale of Two Worshipers (Luke 18:9-14)

The People (9-10)

The Pharisee (Matthew 5:20; Philippians 3:4-6)

The Tax Collector (Matthew 21:31-32)

Their Prayers (11-13)

The Pharisee

The Tax Collector

The Result (14)

One was justified

One was NOT

What does this have to do with me?

(James 1:22-25)

I looked at the Pharisee in the mirror, and it was _____!

Symptoms of being a Pharisee

Passing Judgment (Matthew 7:1-5)

Improper View of Self (Romans 12:3; Revelation 3:14-22)

Refusing to extend Grace to Others

What do I do with the Pharisee in the mirror?

Repent

Realize that God always allows U-turns

Ask God to give you a heart like his

Look carefully at the Pharisee in the mirror and realize that it might be ____

Questions for Discussion

1. Why is it so easy to see the faults in everyone else, and so hard to see those in our own lives?
2. Why did the tax collector in Jesus' story get justified when the religious man (the Pharisee) did not?
3. Why are we so apt to apply God's Word to someone else, and so slow to see its application to ourselves?
4. Why is it that we usually picture ourselves as the heroes in the Bible stories rather than the villains?
5. Why do you think we are so grateful for God's grace in our lives and yet so resistant to extend that grace to others?
6. How can we guard our lives against the dangers of Pharisaism?

[Quotes in this message were taken from Larry Osborne's book, *Accidental Pharisees*, \(Zondervan, 2012\).](#)