

## “What are you ‘taking on’ for Lent?”

<sup>9</sup>To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: <sup>10</sup>“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

<sup>13</sup>“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

<sup>14</sup>“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

- Luke 18:9-14

## 2 Different Approaches to Lent:

### Pharisee

Self-righteous  
Self-sufficient  
Self-deceiving  
Self-proud

### Tax Collector

Self-loathing  
Self-needy  
Self-revealing  
Self-humble

### Pharisee’s Attitude

“There’s **nothing** wrong with me.”

### Tax Collector’s Attitude

“There’s **everything** wrong with me.”

“For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.”

- Galatians 6:3

“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.”

- James 4:6,10

