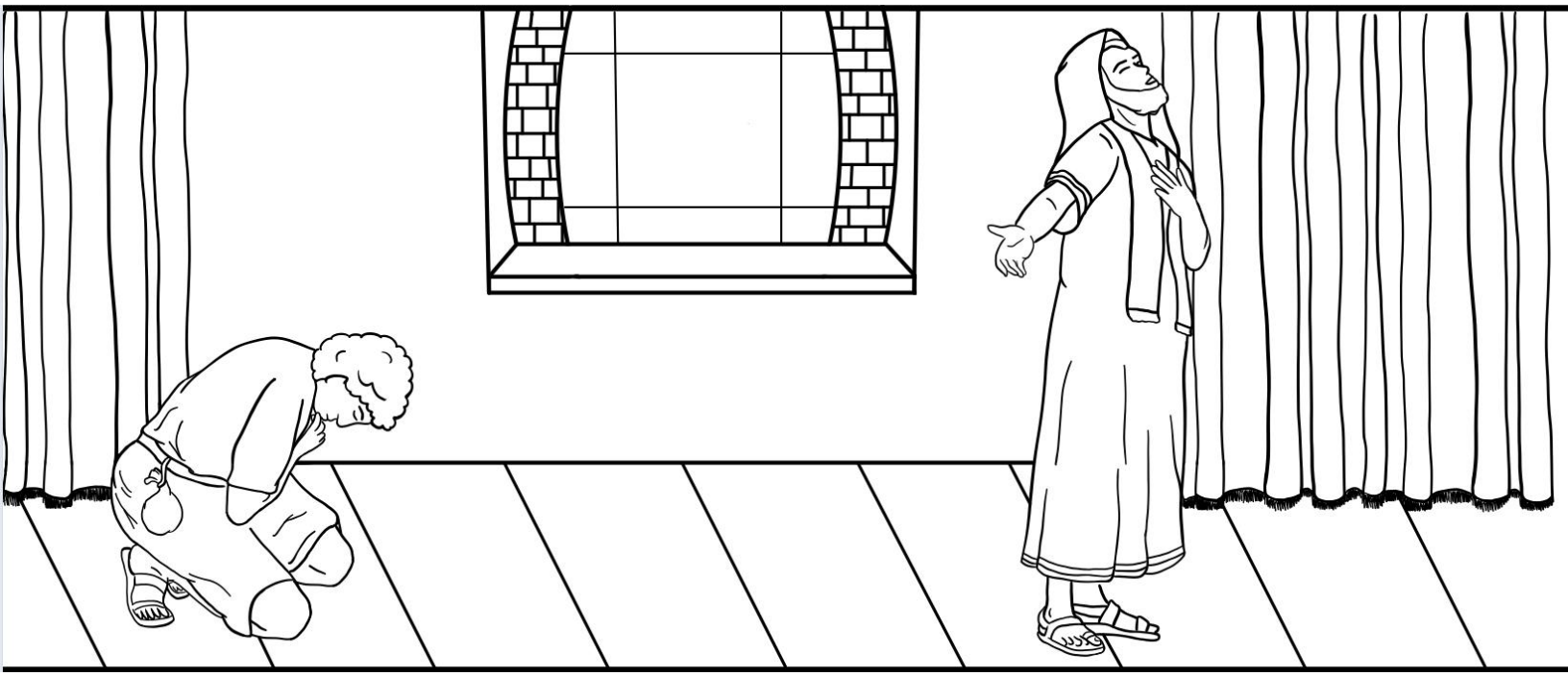
THE PARABLE OF THE

PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE

Luke 18: 9-14



Two men went to a temple to pray. The first man was a Pharisee, and the second man was a Publican. At that time, a Pharisee was a very special and important religious figure, and a Publican was a tax collector. Tax collectors weren't very well liked because people thought they often stole money during taxes. In the temple, the Pharisee prayed, "Thank you God for making me different from other people. I thank you that I am not a thief, or a criminal, or a liar - and that I am not like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and donate much of my money to charity." The tax collector instead simply kneeled and prayed, "God, have mercy upon me, a sinner."

Christ wants us to be like the Publican, or the tax collector, who is humble. God already knows about all of our accomplishments, and He doesn't want us to brag about them to others or to Him during prayer. Instead, when we pray, we should ask for forgiveness, like the Publican, and express our gratitude with a sincere heart.

Humility

Main Lesson:
It is important that we remain humble and never brag about our accomplishments. When we pray, we should ask for forgiveness to be mindful of our mistakes and sins to show our humility to God, because He already knows about our successes.

I Spy..

The Pharisee ☐

The Publican ☐

Humble Praying ☐

Bragging ☐

Activity: **Write a Prayer**