



You're Not as Right as You Think

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⁹ Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else: ¹⁰ “Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer^[a]: ‘I thank you, God, that I am not like other people—cheaters, sinners, adulterers. I’m certainly not like that tax collector! ¹² I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.’ ¹³ “But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Luke 18:9-14 NLT

1. For Jesus, it wasn't about right and wrong, it

was about humble and proud

- Focusing on our own righteousness increases offenses
- Instead of hating what sinners do, we are at risk of hating people
- Proud people struggle to love well

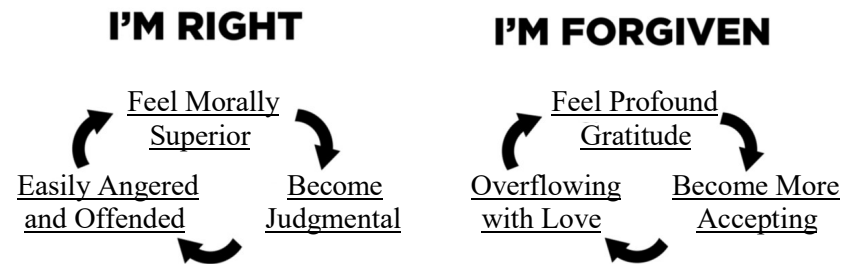
2. Sinful people are drawn to Jesus because he loves them, not because he is perfect

Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He had loved his disciples during his ministry on earth, and now he loved them to the very end.

John 13:1 NLT

³³ Dear children, I will be with you only a little longer. And as I told the Jewish leaders, you will search for me, but you can't come where I am going. ³⁴ So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. ³⁵ Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”

John 13:33-35 NLT



Next Steps:

- Commit to become more loving by focusing on my gratitude to God for his love and forgiveness
- Extend grace and love to the people in my life, _____ in particular
- Repent of my “superior” attitude towards others: _____
- Attend the final week of “No Offense” (or watch on our Youtube channel)
- _____