

**WHO WILL ENTER
THE KINGDOM OF
GOD?**

LUKE 18: 9-30

9 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: **10** “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. **11** The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' 13 But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house *justified*, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be *exalted*."

15 Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. 16 But Jesus called them to him, saying, “**Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the *kingdom of God*. 17 Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the *kingdom of God* like a child shall not enter it.**

18 And a ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit *eternal life*?” 19 And Jesus said to him, “**Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.**

20 You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.’” 21 And he said, “All these I have kept from my youth.” 22 When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have *treasure in heaven*; and come, follow me.” 23 But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich.

24 Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, “How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the *kingdom of God!* 25 For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the *kingdom of God.*” 26 Those who heard it said, “Then who can be *saved?*” 27 But he said, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”

28 And Peter said, "See, we have left our homes and followed you." 29 And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the *kingdom of God*, 30 who will not receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come *eternal life*.

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Those who come to the cross with:

**A humble heart like the tax collector, who
cries out to God for mercy**

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