

The ADVENTurous Life

The Joy of Being Fully Known

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Luke 18:9-14

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Introduction: Advent begins with Adventure. When we are introduced to the Jesus of scripture, we can't help but notice that Jesus lived an Adventurous life. When we read through the gospels, there was never a dull moment with Jesus. With the turning of every page, the disciples learned something new about Jesus and also about themselves. They were being spiritually stretched by following Jesus. To look at scripture through the lens of adventure. Life in Jesus Christ should never be boring. Jesus didn't call us to live a mediocre life. From the time he was born until the time of his death and resurrection, there is always this sense of adventure. "Every step we take in this world is a step toward either darkness or light. Every harsh word, every mean act, every vengeful thought is a part of the works of darkness. Every act of forgiveness, every small act of charity, every temptation resisted is a piece of the armor of light."

Prayer: Father, open our hearts and our minds to your Word as we read and discuss. Grant us understanding in a way that allows us to put into practice what we learn. Amen

Review: With whom were you able to share the joy God's gives you? Do you still wisely seek Jesus as the ultimate destination of your life?

Read: Luke 18:9-14

Discussion:

1. What does Jesus know about the people who are listening to him?
2. What does the Pharisee say about himself? What does he say about God? Upon what is his relationship with God based?
3. What does the Tax Collector say about himself? What does he say about God? What does he hope for from God?
4. Think about the two people in this parable. What traits of each does God see in you?
5. God knows all about you and loves you. (See John 10:7-15) How does this bring you joy?

Application: Remember that you are fully known and fully loved. How will this change your interaction with others and with God this week?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, thank you that you call us by name. Help us respond to your call and your direction for our lives. Amen