

**BREAKING
OPEN THE
WORD**

ST. MATTHEW



ST. MARK



2013

October 27, 2013

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 150

Gospel Lk 18:9-14

Jesus addressed this parable to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else. "Two people went up to the temple area to pray; one was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector. The Pharisee took up his position and spoke this prayer to himself, 'O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity -- greedy, dishonest, adulterous -- or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income.' But the tax collector stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed, 'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.' I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Spiritual Reflection

Does the Pharisee realize that he is pointing out others sins to God and thus not focusing on Himself? Does he really think he is fooling God?

Spiritual Question

1. When was the last time you Examen your conscience?
2. What tools do you use to Examen your conscience?
3. What would a good friend tell you what your faults are?
4. Does the tax collector care what the Pharisee was thinking about him?
5. Who went home justified?

