

Proper 25 – Year C

What's Happening in Sunday School?

Today we are learning the difference between humility and pride. In today's gospel, the tax collector, recognizing his need for God, knows he is a sinner; the Pharisee is confident of his own righteousness. The contrast could not be greater.

The tax collector asks for mercy. He knows his need for God and has faith in Him, and doesn't put his trust in his abilities and good works (like the Pharisee). He is aware that the only way he has access to God is through divine mercy. Such access is not earned; it is the product of God's grace.

When Jesus evaluates the two prayers, only one petitioner went home justified. The tax collector's prayer honored God and was heard, not that of the Pharisee. To drive the point home, Jesus concludes, "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Digging Deeper

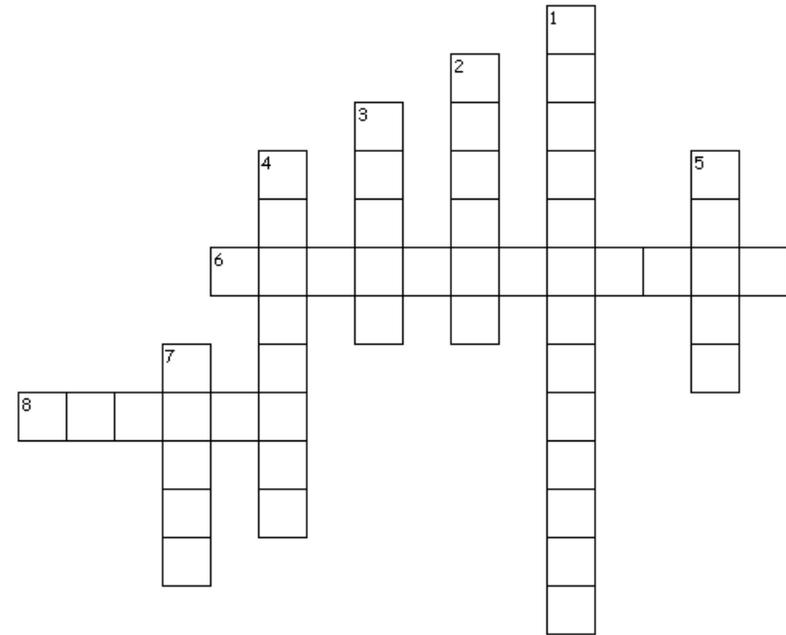
Find the verse in today's Psalm that describes someone wanting to go be with God.

In the gospel today, what does Paul mean when he tells Timothy that he has finished the race?

1. righteous 2. humble 3. mercy 4. Pharisee 5. proud 6. tax collector 7. glory 8. exalts

Fun Page

The Humble are Exalted



Across

6. Someone who gathers taxes
8. "Everyone who _____ himself..."

Down

1. Morally upright; without sin
2. To be modest or meek in attitude
3. Compassionate treatment from God
4. Proud religious leader in Jesus' time
5. To think highly of yourself is to be _____.
7. To give honor and praise is to give _____.