



A New Way - Week 3

Not Like Other People

Luke 18:9-14

The Way of Christ is relationship over religion.

It's Reformation Sunday! (And Still Pentecost)

We are teaching through a sermon series in October, entitled "A New Way."

Early Christians were called "Followers of the Way"

Today, we're going to read a passage where Jesus told a pointed story to people who firmly believed that they were right. (Spoiler alert: they weren't)

The Psychology of Self-Righteousness

Reasons: We believe we are right. Powerful self-interest. Misguided Pride.

A certain amount of confidence isn't a bad thing

But when it turns into self-righteousness, we've lost the plot.

As followers of Jesus we need to do better...

THE WAY OF CHRIST IS RELATIONSHIP OVER RELIGION

Luke 18:9-14

- *The way this passage starts is ominous.*
- *Two men go to pray: a Pharisee and a tax collector. (Loaded terms)*
- *The Pharisee has a laundry list of people he's "not like."*
- *He does religious stuff, fasts twice a week, tithes, and prays publicly*
- *"But the tax collector..." distance, head down, repenting fervently.*

Jesus leaves the crowd with a turn of events that probably stung a few of them. "Those who humble themselves will be exalted."

What Can We Take Away from This

1. *Living in the Way of Jesus means being at ease with uncertainty.*
2. *When you are in the way of Jesus, you'd rather make a difference than a point.*
3. *The Way of Jesus leads you to a relationship with him, not a religiosity that turns religion into an idol.*

THE WAY OF CHRIST IS RELATIONSHIP OVER RELIGION



SERMON EXTRAS & FURTHER READING

FOR FURTHER READING:

The Way of Jesus Christ
Jurgen Moltmann

Practicing The Way
John Mark Comer

Jesus For Everyone: Not Just Christians
Amy-Jill Levine

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