

Chapter 18 (9 - 14)

Some people prided themselves on being virtuous, and despised others. Jesus told them this story:

Two men went to the Temple to pray, one a religious leader, the other a social outcast.

The leader stood there and said "I thank you, God, that I am not greedy, unjust and adulterous like other people such as this outcast here". The outcast did not even raise his eyes, but beat his breast and said "God, be merciful to me, a sinner". The outcast, I tell you, went home a friend of God. The leader did not.

People who exalt themselves will be humbled.

People who humble themselves will be exalted.

Jesus, be merciful to me, a sinner

Chapter 18 (15 - 17)

People brought little children to Jesus, for him to bless them. The disciples told the people to go away and not bother Jesus.

But Jesus called the children to him and said "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child, will never enter it".

Jesus, please give all children
the chance to know and love you