



## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Week of August 27, 2023*

### **Sermon Text Luke 18:9-14**

**9 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: 10 “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ 13 But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”**

*If you were not able to listen to this week’s sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiikaichurch.org/sermons/page/1>.*

### **Discussion Questions**

1. Would you want the Pharisee in our parable as a neighbor? What about the tax collector? Explain your answer.
2. What made the Pharisee’s prayer so offensive to Jesus? Do you think you could ever be guilty of praying like the Pharisee? Explain.
3. In first century Israel, the tax collector was the scum of the earth; a wicked, greedy traitor. Why was his prayer accepted by Jesus? What does this tell you about what is important to the Lord?
4. Do you think you have a good grasp on the depth of your own sin? How do your prayers reflect how well you understand your sin?
5. Can a person truly be saved if they don’t understand how sinful they truly are? Explain your answer.