

# THE PROBLEM WITH BEING “GOOD”

## WHY DO I NEED JESUS? BECAUSE...

### 1. ONLY HE CAN FREE ME FROM JUSTIFYING MY SIN

<sup>9</sup> And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: <sup>10</sup> Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

LUKE 18:9-12 KJV

And since it is through God’s kindness, then it is not by their good works. For in that case, God’s grace would not be what it really is—free and undeserved.

ROMANS 11:6 NLT

Don’t be selfish; don’t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.

PHILIPPIANS 2:3 NLT

<sup>8</sup> If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. <sup>9</sup> But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. <sup>10</sup> If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.

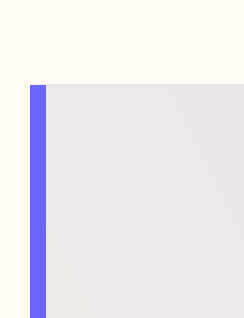
1 JOHN 1:8-10 NLT

## WHY DO I NEED JESUS? BECAUSE...

### 2. I CANNOT LIVE A SINGLE DAY WITHOUT HIS MERCY

“But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.’

LUKE 18:13 NLT



ROTATE YOUR DEVICE

| PHARISEE Luke 18:11 | He justified himself and relied on his own righteousness. | He prioritized his religious practices.                                 | He considered himself superior to others, comparing himself to them. | He failed to recognize that he was a sinner in need of grace. | He was convinced he was justified by what he did.             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| JOHN WESLEY         | He justified himself and relied on his own righteousness. | He prioritized his religious practices.                                 | He considered himself superior to others, comparing himself to them. | He failed to recognize that he was a sinner in need of grace. | His works could not produce the peace or the faith he needed. |
| ME                  | Am I constantly justifying myself before God and others?  | Am I prioritizing my ministry over my relationship with God and people? | Do I consider myself superior to others?                             | Do I recognize that I am a sinner in need of grace?           | Do I have peace and a living faith?                           |

## HOW DO I CULTIVATE HUMILITY?

- Look upward, not sideways:  
God is my standard, not my neighbor.
- Confess my own sin, not someone else's:  
“Have mercy on me.”
- Pray with empty hands:  
Ask for mercy before presenting achievements.
- Remember the cross:  
My righteousness is a gift, not a paycheck.

<sup>22</sup> We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. <sup>23</sup> For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard. <sup>24</sup> Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. <sup>25</sup> For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past,

ROMANS 3:22-25 NLT

## WHY DO I NEED JESUS? BECAUSE...

### 3. ONLY HE CAN MAKE ME PERFECTLY RIGHTEOUS

I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

LUKE 18:14 NLT

Therefore, since we have been made right in God’s sight by faith, we have peace[a] with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us.

ROMANS 5:1 NLT