



# 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Luke 18: 9-14

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 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. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' 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!' 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."

## Some things to think about...

Generally, in our society, people who boast like the Pharisee are considered to be not very nice. As Mini Vinnies members, we should make a real effort to be generous and not selfish. However, it is good to celebrate what you have achieved, especially as a group. And by talking to other people about what you do, more people can get involved. Someone in need might hear about it too, and reach out to the SVP. The main aim is to help others because it is the right thing to do, not because we want praise, and to stay humble by apologising if we make mistakes and trying to do better.

## Activity

Make a poster about being a Mini Vinnie. On the poster, write/draw:

- What you do as Mini Vinnies
- Why you like being a Mini Vinnie
- Why other people should get involved

Put this poster on display to share the good news with others, and to remember why you became Mini Vinnies so you can continue your good work.

## Materials needed for the activity:

1 sheet of flip chart or A3 paper (if a larger group, split into smaller groups with 1 sheet per group)

## Teacher's Notes

You can explain to the children: Paying tithes on everything was sort of like paying a tax, or paying a percentage of what you had to help support the church. An 'extortioner' is one who takes things from other people unfairly. Exalted means raised up, praised.

Remind students of the story about Jesus washing the disciples' feet, and how He told everyone that he came 'not to be served, but to serve'. That's the attitude that we should have, and should guide how we act towards other people. Go over the Mini Vinnie pledge - it talks about our service to the poor. We serve those in need.

Notes: