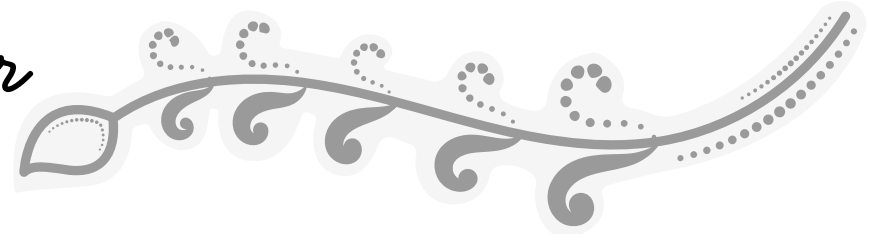


The Pharisee and Tax Collector

Henna Design Title: Standing Justified Before God

Based on Luke 18:9-14



This story is from the Bible. It is a parable about two people who were praying. We know that some people take pride in their own goodness and look down on others. For those people, Jesus told this parable.

“Two men went to the temple to pray. One was a religious teacher; the other, a sinner. The religious teacher stood and prayed: ‘O God, I thank you. I’m not like other people. I don’t cheat, steal or commit adultery. I’m not like this sinner. I fast twice a week. I give one-tenth of all I earn.’

But the sinner stood at a distance. He didn’t even want to lift his eyes to heaven. He beat his chest and prayed: ‘My God, have mercy on me. I’m a sinner.’” *[In your opinion, which one went home justified before God?]*

Jesus then said, “I tell you the truth. The sinner went home justified, not the religious teacher. Because everyone who exalts himself will be humbled. But he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

That is the parable which Jesus told about people who trust in their own goodness to stand justified before God.

Discussion Questions

- Jesus said, “The sinner went home justified.” In your opinion, what must a person do to stand justified before God?
- Do you believe you can stand justified before God? Why?
- I know I can stand justified before God. But it’s not because I’m a good person or according to my good deeds. Good deeds cannot justify a person before God. God made a way to be justified, and the Bible explains that way. Do you want to hear about this way? [If yes, read together Romans 3:23-25a.]

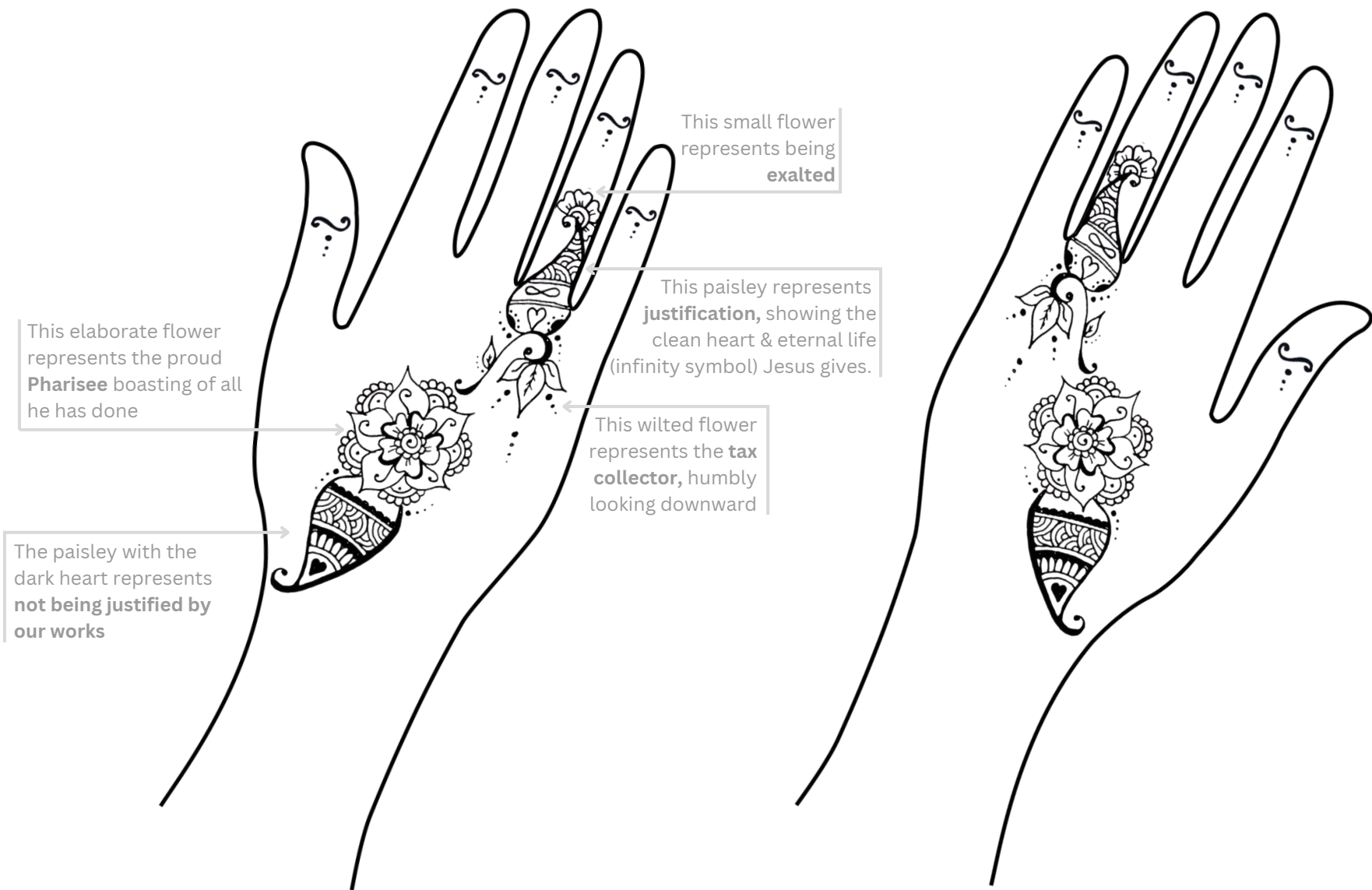
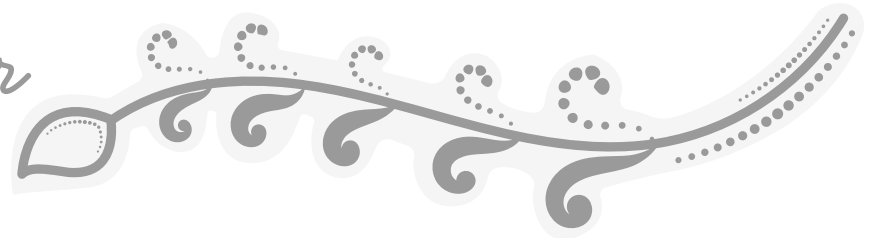
“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith.”

Romans 3:23-25a (NIV)

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This elaborate flower represents the proud **Pharisee** boasting of all he has done

The paisley with the dark heart represents **not being justified by our works**

This small flower represents being **exalted**

This paisley represents **justification**, showing the clean heart & eternal life (infinity symbol) Jesus gives.

This wilted flower represents the **tax collector**, humbly looking downward