

BEST, CHEISTMAS, EVER.

“I Can Do It Myself?” Luke 18:9-14

December 16, 19-20, 2016: David Allgire, Regional Campus' Pastor

THE LIE OF SPIRITUAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY

1. Spiritual self-sufficiency is the false belief that a person is good enough to be right with God and go to Heaven because of their own good deeds and inner goodness.
 - The term in the Bible for the lie of spiritual self-sufficiency is “self-righteousness.”
2. Self-righteousness is not first a personality trait, it's first a false belief. It's the false belief that a person can be righteous, “right with God,” based on their own effort to do good = “self-righteous.”

What's a Parable?

A parable is a story that buys your heart some time. It is deeper and requires more thought than just hearing a statement of truth. Because of this a person has to think about it longer in order to understand it. As a result:

1. This helps people understand and believe truth they would have otherwise rejected immediately because they are prejudiced against it for various reasons.
2. Parables also explain truth at a deeper level than statements because they require the listener to identify with someone in the story.

3. The false belief of self-righteousness is actually what produces the attitude of self-righteousness.
 - God does not grade on an imaginary curve where the top 20% of bad people go to Hell and everyone else who isn't really bad goes to heaven.

LUKE 18:9-14 THE PHARISEE AND TAX COLLECTOR

Jesus is challenging the false beliefs that some people, because they are “gooder” than others, are closer to going to Heaven than others.

1. Pharisees were perceived as the most likely people to go to heaven because they knew more of the laws of God and supposedly followed them better than everyone else.
2. Tax collectors were perceived as the least likely to go to Heaven.

“Justified” is the Bible term for when a person's debt to God is fully paid.

When you believe in Jesus you are putting your trust in Jesus' righteousness and His payment for your sin, instead of your own.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Put your trust in Jesus' righteousness, not your own.
2. Rest in Jesus' righteousness, not your own.

Christmas Services

Join us for special Christmas services as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Please note that Christmas weekend services will be different from Christmas Eve services.

Christmas Eve Services

Wednesday, Dec. 23: 6:45 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 24: 3:30, 5 and 11 p.m.

Christmas Weekend Services

Saturday, Dec. 26: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 27: 9:15 and 11 a.m.

Nursery will be available at all Christmas services for children aged two and under except 11 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24. All other children and students will join their families in the Worship Center.

Ministry Opportunities

For more information about these and other events, go to SavannahChristian.com/Events.

Dates for Final 2015 Giving

Contributions for 2015 can be made online and through the mobile app through Thursday, Dec. 31. The last opportunity to make a 2015 contribution during services will be Wednesday, Dec. 30. Gifts made after Dec. 31 will be counted as 2016 contributions.

Lead a Life Group

One of the best parts of our church is our community of Life Groups. These are small groups of people who meet together during the week to study the Bible, pray and share life together. If you would like to open your home and lead a Life Group next year, sign up at Connecting Point. We'll be hosting orientation sessions in January so you'll get all the information and training you need to start your group.

Financial Peace University

4:15 - 6 p.m. Saturdays, Feb. 6 - April 9

Adult Ministry Center across the street

Learn practical skills for managing money from a biblical perspective in this DVD-based course taught by Dave Ramsey. It's appropriate for all income levels and life circumstances. Topics include personal savings, eliminating debt, investing for retirement and more. Sign up and purchase your course materials at SavannahChristian.com by Sunday, Jan. 31.

Father Daughter Banquet

6:30 - 9 p.m. Thursday - Saturday, Feb. 25 - 27

National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force

Fathers, this is an opportunity to spend a special evening with your daughters, taking time to invest in your father-daughter relationship. You'll spend quality time with each other over a nice dinner followed by music and dancing. Purchase \$35 father tickets and \$5 daughter tickets at The Source bookstore.