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WEEKLY LETTER – 23 OCTOBER 2022

Luke 18.9-14

Jesus knows how to push his luck with the well respected Pharisees!! His point however is clear. At times we are far too easily satisfied with ourselves. I would be the first to admit this, and therefore it's easy to make excuses. So people say, "I don't hurt anyone. I get on with my neighbours. I phone my Mum most days and I try to be a law abiding citizen!" If we think like this, then in reality we are in the same boat as this Pharisee in Jesus' parable.

Not only can we be rather satisfied with ourselves we can also excuse ourselves, because we are not really to blame, or there are some extenuating circumstances, and so in our prayers we can rather too easily leave bits out! Perhaps in our prayers it might be a good idea to remember that God knows all the excuses!

The real point of this short parable is to truly believe in the forgiveness of sins, as clearly the tax collector does.

Real forgiveness of sins means we face what we have done, without any excuses, or extenuating circumstances, and like the tax-collector acknowledge all the horror, meanness, and destructiveness of what we have thought, said or done. Being honest will show God, that you really do believe in forgiveness, and that we know we can always receive forgiveness from God, if we ask for it.

We are unbelievably fortunate!

Stephen

**Sunday Morning Worship in Christ Well, and on Zoom, at 10.30 am will be led by Mrs Adella Pritchard
Bible Reading: Matthew 10.40-42**

Cycle of Prayer in the Swansea Region – we will pray for Uniting Church Sketty.

We have a number of members who are not very well at present. We wish them a speedy recovery, and look forward to them joining us in again Worship in the near future. God Bless.

MANSELTON WELSH BAPTIST CHAPEL
Cecil Street, Manselton
CENTENARY CYMANFA GANU
SUNDAY, 30th OCTOBER, 2022 at 6 pm
EVERYONE WELCOME

A prayer of awe (Lectionary readings: Joel 2.23-32: Psalm 65: 2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18: Luke 18.9-14)_

Dear God of all beauty,
what a wonderful world, and we are part of it.

I never want to lose sight of its beauty
and its wonders.

Help me fee that deep sense of awe
No matter how many times I witness beauty in
magnificence,
delicateness or innocence.

In the vastness and intricacy of nature,
In its wondrous balance and awesome chaos,
help me to appreciate your nearness and understand
you more.

David Williams (URC Prayer Handbook 2022)

