

The Parables of Jesus

The Pharisee and the Publican

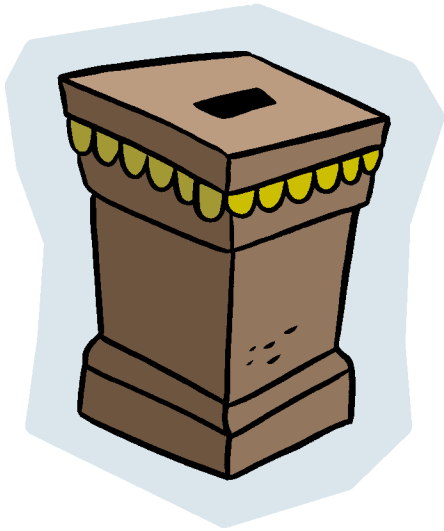
Based on Luke 18:9–14.

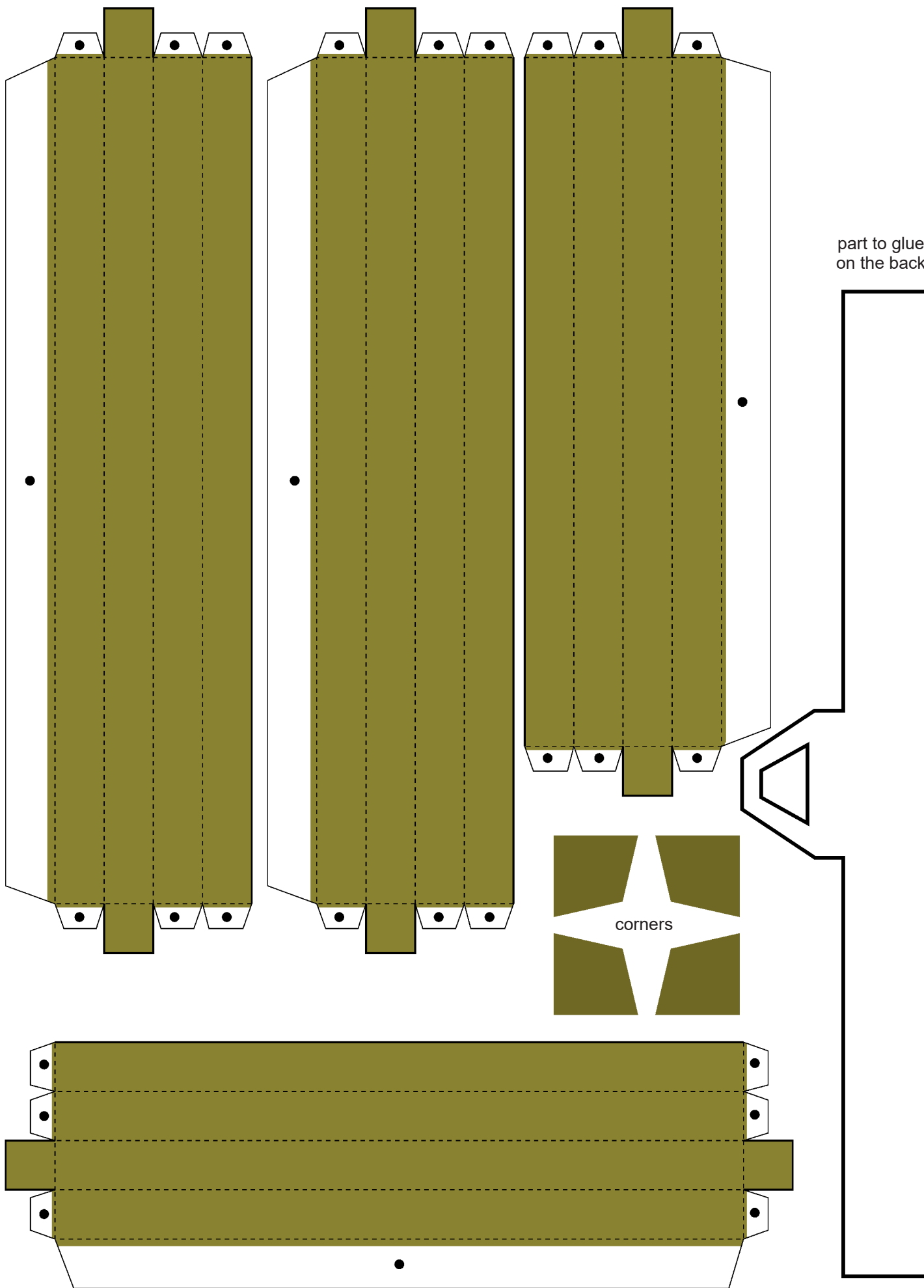
Jesus told the following parable to some people who thought that they were very righteous. “Two men went to the temple to pray. One man was a Pharisee, a religious leader in Jesus’ time; the other man was a tax collector.

“The Pharisee prayed, ‘I thank You, God, that I am not like everybody else, greedy, dishonest, or sinful. Thank You that I am not like that tax collector over there. I am so much more righteous.’

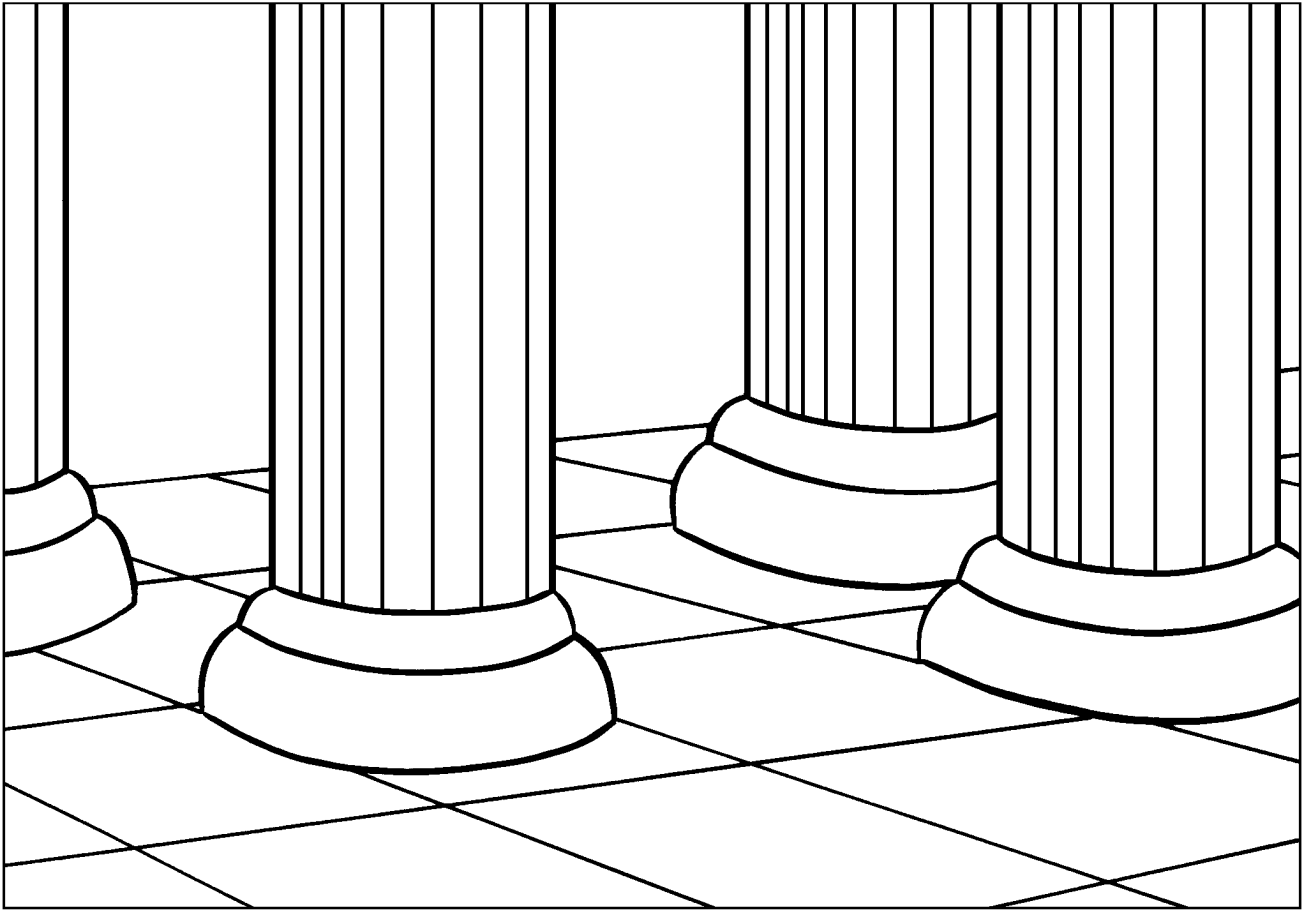
“The tax collector stood at a distance and would not even raise his face to heaven. He beat his chest and prayed, ‘God, have pity on me, a sinner!’”

Jesus then told the people, “The tax collector—not the Pharisee—was the one who returned home having made things right with God. Those who try to make themselves appear great will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be made great.”





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