# Sunday 4th February – Connect Group Notes

## It’s ok not to be ok

Luke 18:9-14

In what ways do we pretend with each other about how we really are?

Read Luke 18:9-14

In this story Jesus tells, play a little game of spot the difference - compare and contrast the Pharisee and the Tax Collector – what do the different contrasts show us?

People hearing Jesus’ parable may well have been shocked by his ‘punch line’ in verse 14 that the Tax Collector went home justified. Do you find it surprising today? Would you dare re-write this parable swapping the tax collector to be about the prostitute or the drug dealer (or…?) who stands outside of the church?

Why does the Pharisee think he’s ok and in the right?

In what ways can we be in danger of being like the Pharisee?

Jesus commends the tax collector in this parable as the one who has humbled himself. It’s as he realises his broken sinfulness and need for help that God meets him with his grace. Andy highlighted how admitting that we’re not ok can open up the possibility of our needs being met in many areas of life. In what ways do you think admitting we’re not ok can open up the possibility of help and restoration?

Are there times in your life where you’ve had to admit to ‘not being ok’? This may have been an admission to yourself, others or even God? What happened as a result?

From this parable what message do you think people outside of the church need to hear?

How might we help them see that truth?

Are there things we need to open up to one another about as a group where we’re not ok? That we might pray and support one another?