



Christ's Perfect Provision

When You're Feeling Competitive

L u k e 9 : 4 6 - 5 0

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • January 17 & 18, 2015 • Luke, week 73 • Msg. 15-02 • Social Media: #ChristProvides

Luke 9:46 An argument arose among them as to which of them was the greatest.
47 But Jesus, knowing the reasoning of their hearts, took a child and put him by his side **48** and said to them, "Whoever receives this child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. For he who is least among you all is the one who is great."
49 John answered, "Master, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he does not follow with us."
50 But Jesus said to him, "Do not stop him, for the one who is not against you is for you."
(ESV)

Problem #1: " _____ " (vv.46-48)

A. Compare _____

B. See _____

C. Wait _____

Problem #2: " _____ " (vv.49-50)

A. Affirm _____

B. Celebrate _____

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Romans 3:23-26**. How does this single biblical truth alone, help you to quell the kinds of continual lateral comparisons Christians are so prone to make?
2. Read **1 Corinthians 12:12-18** and **4:7**. What truths stated in these two passages are most helpful for you in considering the irrationality of pride and rivalries?
3. Read **James 3:13-18**. What are some of the corrupting effects of this kind of demonic "wisdom" among God's people?
4. Read **Mark 9:41**. Why is the doctrine of rewards so important in restraining ungodly competitiveness, and what other aspects of our sanctification are impacted when Christians are ignorant or ignore the reality of eternal rewards?
5. Read **1 Corinthians 4:1-7**. How can we keep the truth of today's sermon from deflating our ambition to make an impact in this world for Christ?

This Week's Bible Reading Schedule

January 18th

Gen.42-43 & Mt.13:33-58

January 19th

Gen.44-45 & Mt.14:1-21

January 20th

Gen.46-48 & Mt.14:22-36

January 21st

Gen.49-50 & Mt.15:1-20

January 22nd

Ex.1-3 & Mt.15:21-39

January 23rd

Ex.4-6 & Mt.16

January 24th

Ex.7-8 & Mt.17

January 25th

Ex.9-10 & Mt.18:1-20

The following related sermons are also available for free as mp3 downloads or audio streaming on the Focal Point Website (FocalPointMinistries.org).

- Msg. 09-05 – **The Word's Clarity About Our Sin**
- Msg. 11-03 – **Serving without Pride**
- Msg. 04-10 – **Prompted by Love: A Lifelong Quest**
- Msg. 07-23 – **Attempting Great Things for God**
- Msg. 13-13 – **Managing Your Ambitions**
- Msg. 12-34 – **Mary: God's Humble Teenager**
- Msg. 07-05 – **Motivated by Christ's Rewards at His Return**

This Week's Social Media Hashtag

#ChristProvides

For users of Twitter, Facebook, or other social media sites for the grouping of sermon quotes, helpful insights, or your sharable applications drawn from today's sermon.

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

- Adams, Jay. **The Biblical View of Self-Esteem, Self-Love & Self-Image**. Harvest House, 1986.
- Bunyan, John. **A Treatise of The Fear of God**. Reprint. CreateSpace, 2011.
- Carson, D. A. **A Call to Spiritual Reformation: Priorities from Paul and His Prayers**. Baker Books, 1992.
- Frank, Arnold L. **The Fear of God: A Forgotten Doctrine**. Second Edition. Nordskog Publishing, 2008.
- Guinness, Os. **The Call: Finding and Fulfilling The Central Purpose of Your Life**. Word Publishing, 1998.
- Lewis, C.S. **The Screwtape Letters**. Barbour Publishing, 1990.
- MacArthur, John. **Twelve Ordinary Men: How the Master Shaped His Disciples for Greatness**. Thomas Nelson, 2002.
- Mack, Wayne A. **Humility: The Forgotten Virtue**. P & R Publishing, 2005.
- Murray, Andrew. **Humility: The Journey Toward Holiness**. Bethany House, 2001.
- Sanders, Oswald. **Spiritual Leadership**. Moody Press, 1980.
- Schaeffer, Francis. **The Church at the End of the Twentieth Century**. Crossway Books, 1994.
- Scott, Stuart. **From Pride to Humility: A Biblical Perspective**. Focus Publishers, 2003.
- Stowell, Joseph. **Perilous Pursuits: Our Obsession with Significance**. Moody Press, 1994.
- Swindoll, Charles. **Improving Your Serve: The Art of Unselfish Living**. Reprint. Word, 2002.
- Wiersbe, Warren. **Living with the Giants: The Lives of Great Men of the Faith**. Baker Books, 1993.