

1 “MY BAD”

2 The bump in the rug

- After finishing a carpet job, a certain carpet layer noticed he lost his cigarettes.
- Using a mallet he flattens the bump.
- Later the lady of the house finds the cigarettes and takes them to the carpet layer and ask him . . .
- Oops “My Bad!”

3 Greatest mistakes in History

- The Royal Baker who left the oven on after work in 1666.
- Prohibition in the United States during the 1920s.
- The movie The Conqueror . . .

4 Other Bad Mistakes

- Pookie Johnson
- Psychology Student
- Husband Shaking
- Khay Rahnajet
- Manute Bol

5 Mistakes can cost us

- Small oversights, errors and miscalculations can all result in major mistakes.
- But secret problems can hurt us as well.
- They can drive us to our knees, cause us to do some searching self-examination, and lead us to confess what the Bible calls “hidden faults” (Psalm 19:12)
- If fact, these “hidden faults” can even cause us to declare “my bad.”

6 Pharisee & Tax collector

- To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: . . .
- “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men — robbers, evildoers, adulterers — or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’” (Luke 18:9–12 NIV)

7 Average people

- Studies show nine in 10 managers rate themselves as superior to their average colleagues, as do nine in 10 college professors.

- According to professor of psychology David Myers, most drivers—even those who have been hospitalized after accidents—believe themselves to be safer and more skilled than the average driver.

8 Above average

- According to humorist Dave Barry,
 - “The one thing that unites all human beings, regardless of age, gender, religion, economic status or ethnic background, . . .
 - is that deep down inside, we all believe that
 - we are above average drivers.”

9 Comparison

- The Pharisee had no clue to his faults and boasted of his religious devotion—his fasting and tithing.
- While the Tax Collector is fully aware of his faults and humbles himself saying, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’
- “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God.” (Luke 18:14 NIV)

10 Getting Close with God

- The conclusion of this parable was probably not what Jesus’ audience was expecting to hear.
- To them religious piety is what really mattered to God.
- However, Jesus makes the point that confessing our faults and humbling ourselves matters more.
- Pride and vanity blinds us to our faults and keeps us from the mercy and grace that God really has for us.

11 Pride

- Causes us to think more of ourselves where we feel we have special rights and privileges.
- Causes us to be impatient, disrespectful, and critical of others.
- Causes us to be self-centered and spend money and time on our own wants.
- Causes us to hold on to offenses and withhold love.
- Keeps us from being teachable and open to correction.
- Blinds us to our own faults where we are self-righteous and spiritually arrogant.

12 Pride Problem?

- How do we know if we have a problem with PRIDE?
 - Deny we have a problem with pride!
 - Don't pray the following prayers . . .
 - Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.
(Psa 139:23-24 NIV)
 - Test me, O LORD, and try me, examine my heart and my mind . . . (Psa 26:2 NIV)

13 What Should we do?

- Being blind to our faults may seem like a little problem, but the consequences are catastrophic.
- Two ways for us deal with the problem.
 - We humble ourselves, or
 - Let God humble us.

14 Ways to humble ourselves

- Speak well of others despite their faults.
- Never criticize without first completing.
- Our opinions are usually wrong so keep them to ourselves.
- While we're special to God, let us not act like it to each other.
- Accept correction without arguing or complaining.
- Ask a true friend to point out your faults.

15 Ways to humble ourselves

- Ask God to search our hearts and reveal to us any pride or arrogance that is keeping us from properly judging "our bads" and so humble ourselves where we can obtain his forgiveness.