

A Common Mistake

- ❖ We compare the behavior of the two brothers and assume there is a winner and a loser.

The Point of the Story

- ❖ The point of the parable is to illustrate the heart of the Father towards us.
- 1) Both brothers believed their relationship with their father was based on their performance.
 - 2) The father responds to both of his sons in the exact same way.

The Father's Love

- ❖ The Father's love is not based on or influenced by our performance.
- ❖ The Father loves us as we are, not as we should be.

Heart Evaluation

- The older brother was focused on what he as well as others deserved.
- The younger brother was focused on his own system of justice.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, November 12th, 2023

It's Collection Week! Operation Christmas Child delivers great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes. Stop by the table in the foyer and pick up a flyer with this week's collection times. If you brought a packed and labeled box with you this morning you can leave it on the table in the foyer.

Thank You: *"We are overwhelmed by your generosity over the month of October. To say we feel appreciated is an understatement! Thank you for the gifts, the cards, and your words of encouragement! It is a blessing to be able to serve as your pastors, and to co-labor with you in proclaiming the gospel. We are thankful for you!" – The Pastoral Staff*

Elder Fund Donations: The Elder Fund exists to bless members of the congregation in times of financial hardship. This fund is made possible by designated offerings from church members and is separate from the church's budget. Currently, there are some legitimate needs that the Elders want to make you aware of and ask that you prayerfully consider making a donation. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.



The Annual Congregational Business Meeting is scheduled for January 14th at 4 PM. Even if you're not a voting member, if you consider Hillcrest to be your church home, we encourage you to attend! The meeting will be held in the sanctuary. Stop by the Welcome desk to pick up a copy of the proposed changes to Hillcrest's constitution and bylaws. **Childcare will be available during the meeting for 0-6 years old. Please scan the QR code to register for childcare.**

Membership: If you would like to become a member of Hillcrest Church, you can pick up an application at the Welcome desk. Applications should be returned to the drop box or the church office by Sunday, December 3rd.

Ways to Give: Offering collection boxes are located by the sanctuary doors. You can also give online at hillcrestefc.org/give or on the Hillcrest Church app.