

# Is there consequence to the “self-promotion” trap? How can we be on the lookout to keep from falling into it?



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What does “self-promotion” mean to you? How can you stick up for yourself without self-promoting?

When does “self-promotion” become a trap? When have you been the Pharisee?

What are indicators that you may be falling into the self-promotion trap (spiritually, mentally, and physically)? How do you respond when being aware of these indicators to move away from the trap?

How do you define “success?” How does this parable relate to the mindset about success in the workplace? How does humility fit into the workplace?

When do you become complicit in an environment of “self-promotion?” What are the risks involved? When do you speak up/not speak up?

How can you succeed in work, with or without “self-promotion?” Have you been a part of a culture where “self-promotion” wasn’t the key to success. What was that culture like? What did you witness or experience?



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## Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

*To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone 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 by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” – Luke 18:9-14*

**The 2023 BELIEVES sessions are focused throughout the year on “Living Our Faith According to Jesus’s Parables.”**

Jesus' parables are short, simple stories he shared to teach and illuminate how we as Christians can go through the day in our work environment seeking to walk with Christ and let the Holy Spirit guide our work decisions amidst the pressures and challenges faced in the work environment.