

[NOTE: In the 2012 Broadway Revival, this next section was performed as a wrestling match for WWJD. The text as given is what was performed in the original production.]

MORGAN

*(Quieting the OTHERS)*

Shhhh!

*(And she begins to "preach" in a revivalist meeting style)*

Gather 'round, brothers and sisters!

*(The OTHERS immediately begin to participate in this new "prayer meeting" game.)*

Because two men — I said two men...

OTHERS

Hallelujah!!

MORGAN

...Went off to the temple to pray. One, a Pharisee,...

*(CELISSE, perhaps nudged by JESUS, decides to portray the Pharisee. She runs DSL and assumes a self-aggrandizing stance.)*

OTHERS

*(Showing general derision for the Pharisee)*

Boo! (etc.)

MORGAN

...and the other a tax gatherer.

*(NICK somersaults off table and becomes the Tax Gatherer, DSR.)*

OTHERS

*(Showing inexplicable sympathy for the Tax Gatherer)*

Ahhh!

MORGAN

The Pharisee, why he just stood right on up, and pra-a-a-a-yed thus:

CELISSE

*(As the Pharisee, immensely pleased with herself)*

"I thank thee, O God, that I am not like other men, greedy, dishonest, adulterous, or, for that matter, like that tax gatherer."

*(She points scornfully at NICK.)*

"I pray twice a week — get that? Twice a week!! And pay taxes on all that I get."

*(General derision directed at CELISSE. She responds by looking haughtier than ever.)*

MORGAN

But the other kept his distance and would not even raise his eyes to the good Lord in Heaven.

(To LINDSAY)

I said the good Lord in Heaven, Chile.

LINDSAY

Amen, sister!

MORGAN

But beat upon his breast, saying:

NICK

"Oh, God, have mercy on me, sinner that I am!"

ALL

Hallelujah! Amen! (etc.)

JESUS

(Crossing DR to NICK)

And it was this man, I tell you...

CELISSE

Oh, you've got to be kidding!

JESUS

(Crossing to CELISSE)

...and not the other who went off and quitted of his sins.  
For every man who exalts himself...

(CELISSE does a leap.)

...shall be humbled:

(He taps her on the shoulder and she collapses.)

But...

(JESUS crosses to NICK.)

...Every man who humbles himself, shall be exalted.

(JESUS attempts to raise NICK from his knees, but NICK proves a bit heavier than he had anticipated and he fails. JESUS mutters under his breath.)

Father in Heaven...

(... and tries again to lift NICK up to a standing position. This time he succeeds.)

Shall be exalted!

(ALL cheer. JESUS starts to cross to others, and immediately, NICK loses his balance and falls. He scrambles up and scampers over to join the group.)

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