

Lesson 10: Humility Philippians 2: 5 – 8

I. Humility in Jesus

1. How would you define servant leadership?
Where did the concept come from?
2. Jesus is the greatest example of what a humble person look like, where was Jesus before he came to earth? Would you volunteer to leave heaven?
3. Can you think of anything Jesus did that wasn't a demonstration of humility?
Can anyone be a good, effective leader without humility and a servant's heart?

II. Humility in the Bible

Throughout the Bible, God commands his people to be humble. God's thoughts about humility are simple and often repeated.

God exalts the humble and humbles the haughty.

This promised out came is all through scripture.

Read Psalms 18: 27 + Psalms 147:6 Proverbs 18:12 + Proverbs 29:23 + Proverbs 16:18

Those on the top, are pushed to the bottom and those on the bottom are exalted to the highest place.

Jesus reinforced this truth in his teaching Matthew 23:12 Luke 14:11.

Both Peter and James had their own teaching on this theme.
Turn to James 4:10 and 1 Peter 5: 5 – 6

Jesus had a challenge with his own disciples because they wanted to be first in the kingdom. Mark 9:35 + Mark 10:44 – 45

I am sure there were other voices advocating humility at the time of Jesus, but no other leaders washed their followers' feet, touched lepers and bleeding women, honored children, reached out to the poor and outcast and listened to prostitutes like Jesus did.

Humility is first an attitude about yourself, but the proof is in how we treat others. Let's entertain four suggestions to help cultivate the spirit of humility.

- a. ***Associate with the lowly people*** as if they were treasured friends.
Romans 12:16
God does not judge people by their looks. He loves them regardless of their station in life.
- b. ***Don't miss the children.***
In Jesus' day, children were not thought of value until they became young adults. Jesus thought differently. Mark 10: 13 – 16.
- c. ***Practice placing yourself in a humble place.*** Luke 14: 10 – 11.
Jesus looked for ways to serve others. It might be not taking the best parking space at work. Doing things to help others that are not expected of you.
- d. ***Serve whenever you can – to whoever you can.***
Jesus modeled this by washing the disciples' feet in John 13.
Humility and service to others pay big dividends in the kingdom of God. Those who learn this lesson will be greatly blessed on this earth and in Heaven.