Paul's humility is displayed in his assertion of authority over a church being hijacked by wolves instead of stating accomplishments he recounts all the episodes that make him look weak he even says he would rather boast about his weakness.

No church answers or I'll make you explain it.

Why would God teach us to do as Paul did here vs inserting ourselves everywhere? Because that's pride

And how does God handle pride in a believer's life? (does it specify that??)

1 Peter 5: <sup>5</sup> You younger men, likewise, be subject to *your* elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.

What about in our lives? When we are put on the spot to justify ourselves, (this applies to all of us), what do we do? I've done it both ways.

- 1) I'm in the zone of this realm and play the game and fail
- 2) I'm in the mind of Christ and know he puts one down and another up.

In later years when interviewing I stopped selling myself. "Why should we give you this job over the others?"

then <sup>6</sup> Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, What do we know about promotion – where it comes from? and don't just say "god"

Psalm 75: 1 For the choir director; set to Al-tashheth. A Psalm of Asaph, a Song. We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks, For Your name is near; Men declare Your wondrous works. 2 "When I select an appointed time, It is I who judge with equity. 3 "The earth and all who dwell in it melt; It is I who have firmly set its pillars. Selah. 4 "I said to the boastful, 'Do not boast,' And to the wicked, 'Do not lift up the horn; 5 Do not lift up your horn on high, Do not speak with insolent pride.'"

6 For not from the east, nor from the west, Nor from the desert comes exaltation; 7 But God is the Judge; He puts down one and exalts another. 8 For a cup is in the hand of the LORD, and the wine foams; It is well mixed, and He pours out of this; Surely all the wicked of the earth must drain and drink down its dregs. 9 But as for me, I will declare it forever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob. 10 And all the horns of the wicked He will cut off, But the horns of the righteous will be lifted up.

Break this down – this is a well driven life-nail!

If you know this and believe what it says, you will conduct yourself in your own death (humility) knowing that God will raise life out of your death

- It is the key to God's power being relased through your dead body into the lives of others
  - God's power & reach are a Catch 22 you can't wield it, you can only get out of the way
  - o Those who seem to wield it are not weilding at all but being weilded as His instrument

If you do not know it & obey it, you will always struggle with relationships and humility b/c there won't be a purpose

Ps 75:1 The psalmist praises God for present mercies

Ps 75:2 Ps 75:3 the Lord answers, and promises to judge the people righteously,

Ps 75:4-7 rebukes the proud and haughty, Ps; shows that all authority comes from himself,

Ps 75:8 that he will punish the wicked,

Ps 75:9 the psalmist resolves to praise God

Ps 75:10 and the Most High promises to cast down the wicked, and raise up the righteous,.

When we truly understand this, how pointless would it be for us to worry / assert ourselves?

If God wants you promoted, how would you not be?

If God does not ordain it and you manipulate your way where you shouldn't be, what will likely happen?

## Think about this:

Do you trust someone more if they are open & forthcoming about their own weaknesses or Do you trust someone more if they are consistent in showing you their successes? Why?