

Message Notes:

Byron starts his message with a series of preference questions. Which would you prefer? Bragging, self-serving arrogance or humble servanthood?

- Interesting factoid: in the greco-roman world of the first century, humility was not an accepted moral value. “Merit demanded honor.”

Yet, with Jesus and the New Testament we see this value system turned upside-down.

- Matthew 23:11; Luke 14:11; Matthew 20:28
- Paul agrees: Philippians 2:3-4

Quote by Tim Keller: “Humility: is not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less.”

Philippians 2:3-4 teaches us:

- It is normal and natural to care for yourself. (verse 4a)
- But do not be self-centered/self-obsessed. (verse 3a)
- Look out for the interests of others. (verses 3b & 4b)

The “social usefulness scale” is practiced by most people (sometimes) — scanning the room for people we deem useful or useless to us — and gravitating to those we honor, while avoiding those we think can add nothing to our lives.

- Taught by James 2:1-4

Question: How do we become “less selfish?”

Answer: Small steps

Luke 14:11-14
Philippians 2:5-8

Discussion Questions:

Why is it difficult for people to:

- Not be selfish?
- To be humble?

Which is a greater sin — selfishness or pride?

What do you think about this quote?

- “Humility: is not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less.”

What are some practical ways you can serve someone this week?

- Small ways
- Sacrificial ways