

Humility (Accessing All Grace) – Part 6

5-Day Devotional: Humility's Path to Grace

Day 1: The Path of True Humility

Reading: James 4:6-10; Philippians 2:5-8

Devotional: Jesus modeled perfect humility by saying "not my will, but yours be done." This stands in stark contrast to Satan's prideful "I will" declarations. True humility isn't weakness—it's the strength to submit your desires to God's perfect plan. When you lower yourself in humility, you gain access to God's abundant grace. Consider areas where you've been saying "I will" instead of "Your will, Father." Humility opens the floodgates of divine assistance, while pride only meets resistance. Today, practice saying, "God, You're right. I'm wrong," and watch how this posture transforms your perspective and increases God's effectiveness in your daily walk and in Kingdom work.

Day 2: Speaking His Words, Not Ours

Reading: John 12:49-50; John 14:10, 24

Devotional: Jesus never spoke on His own authority—every word came from the Father. How many unnecessary conflicts could we avoid if we waited for God's words instead of rushing to share our own thoughts? When we speak from pride and selfishness rather than humility and grace, we create division instead of unity. This week, practice pausing before responding in difficult situations. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you the Father's words—words that bring life, truth, and love. You don't need to quote chapter and verse to minister effectively; you need to be in such fellowship with God that His words flow naturally through you. Remember: the words carry power, not your eloquence.

Day 3: Doing What You See the Father Do

Reading: John 5:19-20, 30; John 8:28-29

Devotional: Jesus only did what He saw the Father doing. This reveals a profound truth: God wants to show you His works so you can participate in them. You're not required to

manufacture your own plans and ask God to bless them. Instead, submit to His will and watch Him reveal His purposes. When you seek His will above your own, your judgment becomes righteous because it aligns with His perspective. Today, surrender your twenty-year plans and ask God to show you His next step. He's not opposed to exalting you—He just wants to do it His way. Operating in humility means working with His strength, not your own effort.

Day 4: Overcoming the Independent Spirit

Reading: 2 Corinthians 10:3-6; Hebrews 10:24-25

Devotional: God never intended you to walk alone. The enemy whispers thoughts of isolation, loneliness, and independence, leading many to despair. But these thoughts don't originate in you, they're spiritual attacks that require spiritual warfare, not just natural solutions. God promises, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Community isn't optional; it's essential for your spiritual survival. The independent spirit that says "I can do this alone" is pride masquerading as strength. Today, identify where you've isolated yourself. Reach out to your church community. Engage your faith toward the Lord who is always with you. You are a believer, not a doubter. Your identity is found in Christ, not in your feelings.

Day 5: From Faith to Faith, Glory to Glory

Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:18; Romans 1:17; Hebrews 11:6

Devotional: Your life is designed to move from faith to faith and glory to glory. You're not identified by your emotions or circumstances—you're identified by who you are in Christ. Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. Plant good seed through right decisions, and you'll reap a good harvest. Don't expect oranges from thistles. This week, declare over yourself: "I am a believer, not a doubter. I will overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of my testimony." The world may grow dark, but you're living in Goshen where the light still shines. Be a doer of the Word, not just a hearer. Access more grace through humility and watch impossible situations become possible with God.

Scripture Reference Guide

Explicitly Mentioned Scripture References:

1. **Isaiah 14** (Satan's "I will" statements)
2. **Matthew 26** (Jesus' "not my will" statement)
3. **James 4:6** - God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble
4. **James 4:10** - Submit to God, resist the devil
5. **Romans 6** (general reference to enslaving oneself to righteousness)
6. **John 5:19** - The Son can do nothing of himself
7. **John 5:30** - I can of myself do nothing; I do not seek my own will
8. **John 6:38** - I have come down from heaven not to do my own will
9. **John 7:16** - My doctrine is not mine but His who sent me
10. **John 8:26** (referenced but not quoted)
11. **John 8:28** - I do nothing of myself; as the Father taught me
12. **John 8:38** - I speak what I have seen with my Father
13. **John 12:49** - I have not spoken on my own authority
14. **John 12:50** - Whatever I speak, as the Father has told me
15. **John 14:10** - The Father who dwells in me does the works
16. **John 14:24** - The word which you hear is not mine but the Father's
17. **John 14:31** - As the Father gave me commandment, so I do
18. **John 15:15** - All things that I heard from my Father I have made known to you
19. **John 17:8** - I have given them the words which you have given me
20. **John 17:14** - I have given them your word
21. **John 3:16-17** - For God so loved the world...
22. **Romans 3:23** - All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

23. **Romans 6:23** - The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life

24. **Romans 10:9-10** - If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus

25. **Ephesians 1:3** - Blessed with all spiritual blessings

Alluded to but Not Explicitly Cited:

27. **Genesis 3** - The enemy in the Garden of Eden

28. **Philippians 4:13** - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"

29. **Hebrews 13:5** - "I will never leave you nor forsake you"

30. **Ephesians 6:11** - "Put on the whole armor of God"

31. **1 John 4:4** - "Greater is he who is in you than he who is in the world"

32. **2 Corinthians 3:18** - "From glory to glory"

33. **Romans 1:17** - "From faith to faith"

34. **Revelation 12:11** - "They overcame by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony"

Themes with Suggested Supporting Verses:

- **Humility vs. Pride:** Proverbs 16:18, 1 Peter 5:5-6
- **Doing God's Will:** Matthew 6:10, Hebrews 10:7
- **Jesus as Example:** 1 Peter 2:21, Philippians 2:5-8
- **Spiritual Warfare:** 2 Corinthians 10:3-5, Ephesians 6:12
- **Being Doers of the Word:** James 1:22-25

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Small Group and Personal Study Guide: Pride's Destruction and Humility's Grace

Small Group Guide: Humility - "Not My Will"

Sermon Summary

This sermon, part six in a series on humility, continues with the contrast of Satan's declaration "I will" (Isaiah 14) with Jesus' statement "not my will" (Matthew 26). True humility means submitting to God's will rather than insisting on our own way. Jesus modeled perfect humility by only doing what He saw the Father do and speaking what He heard the Father say. When we humble ourselves, we gain access to God's grace, wisdom, and authority.

Key Scriptures

- James 4:6-10 - God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble
- John 5:19, 30 - Jesus only did what He saw the Father do
- John 12:49 - Jesus spoke only what the Father commanded
- Romans 10:9-10 - Confession and belief unto salvation

Discussion Questions

Understanding Humility

1. **What's the difference between Satan saying "I will" and Jesus saying "not my will"?**
How do these two statements represent pride versus humility?
2. **The pastor said, "There is no problem that sufficient grace cannot overcome."** What does this mean practically? How does humility give us access to more grace?
3. **Read John 5:30 together.** Jesus said His judgment was righteous because He didn't seek His own will. How can this principle help us make better decisions in difficult situations?

Personal Reflection

4. **The sermon mentioned that "the younger you are, the more arrogant you tend to be."**
Can you share an example from your own life where age or experience taught you humility?
5. **Jesus was taught by the Father and grew in wisdom (Luke 2:52).** What does this reveal about our own spiritual growth process? How does this encourage you?
6. **The pastor challenged: "God is not required to bless what you came up with."** Have you ever had a "good idea for God" that didn't work out? What happened?

Practical Application

7. **The sermon stated: "If you want to judge situations right, don't seek your own will."**
Think of a current situation you're facing. How might seeking God's will instead of your own change your perspective?
8. **The pastor mentioned unnecessary fights happen when we share our thoughts instead of God's thoughts.** Can you think of a recent conflict that might have been avoided through humility and listening to God first?
9. **Regarding speaking truth in love:** How can we balance speaking God's truth (even when it's countercultural) while still demonstrating Christ's love? What's the difference between firm and harsh?

Key Takeaways

- ✓ **Humility = Submission to God's will; Pride = Defiance of God's will**
- ✓ **God resists the proud but gives MORE grace to the humble**
- ✓ **Jesus modeled humility by only doing what He saw the Father do and speaking what He heard the Father say**
- ✓ **We can access God's wisdom and authority by submitting to His will instead of insisting on our own**
- ✓ **Speaking God's words (even difficult truth) in love is not hate—it's genuine care for others**
- ✓ **Believers are built to believe and can receive the Father's revelation just like Jesus did.**

This Week's Challenge

Daily Practice

Each day this week, practice saying: **"God, you're right. I'm wrong. Not my will, but yours be done."**

Specific Actions

1. **Identify one area** where you've been insisting on your own way rather than seeking God's will.
2. **Before making decisions this week**, pause and ask: "What would God want me to do/say in this situation?"
3. **When facing conflict**, resist the urge to defend yourself immediately. Instead, pray: "God, show me Your perspective"
4. **Journal** about one situation where you chose humility over pride this week

Accountability Question

Who in your life can you check in with this week about your progress in choosing "not my will, but Yours"?

Closing Reflection

Read together: "I can of myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me." - John 5:30

Personal Declaration: (Say together)

- "I am a believer, not a doubter"
- "My goal is to do like Jesus did"
- "I will hear from the Father and speak His words"
- "I choose humility to access God's grace"

Closing Prayer

Pray for each group member to:

- Surrender their will to God's will this week
- Receive revelation from the Father like Jesus did
- Walk in humility and access greater grace
- Speak God's words in love, even when difficult

Notes for Group Leaders

- Be honest about your own struggles with pride vs. humility
- Create a healthy environment for honest discussion about areas where people struggle to submit to God
- Emphasize grace—this is a process of growth, not instant perfection
- Follow up during the week with group members about their "humility challenge"