

Humble Beginnings

January 1, 2017

I. Introduction

1 Peter 5:5-6 All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

- Humility is the key to Success.

II. Three Humble Truths

1. Humility is an active response.

- Humility is not an option.
 - A. Humility is not passive, but active.
 - A person can not be prideful and still not be humble.

Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

- B. Humility is not selfish.

John 13:3-5 Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

- C. Humility is rooted in confidence.

John 13:12-17 When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

D. Humility is revealed in service.

- Humility is proven by proximity.

2. Humility leads to favor.

A. God opposes the proud because the proud disregard others.

Proverbs 15:25 The Lord tears down the house of the proud, but he sets the widow's boundary stones in place.

B. God opposes the proud because the proud disregard God.

Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

C. Humility leads to wisdom.

Proverbs 11:2 When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

D. Humility leads to honor.

Proverbs 15:33 Wisdom's instruction is to fear the Lord, and humility comes before honor.

- You cannot move forward until you get out of the way.

Luke 14:11 For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

E. Humility will determine whether you receive divine opposition or favor.

1 Peter 5:5 All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

3. Humility begins with God.

A. Humility's first step is toward God

1 Peter 5:6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

- It is in God's nature to intervene for the sake of His people.

Deuteronomy 26:8 So the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with signs and wonders.

B. Humility trusts in God.

1 Peter 5:7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.