

The Attitude of Our Heart

- Opening Announcements
- Opening Prayer

Q: Have you ever heard the phrase; "Follow Your Heart"? What does this mean?

Q: Is this good advice? Why or why not?

Q: Why is attitude important in our relationship with God?

Q: What attitude would you think is particularly problematic in our relationship with God? Why?

READ: Luke 14:8-11 "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹ and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹ For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Q: Why does Jesus teach us to "humble ourselves"? In our life what "place" should we be looking to occupy?

READ: Philippians 2:4-11 "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Q: How did Jesus demonstrate humility? Why is this so important for us? How does His example teach us about what's important in God's Kingdom?

READ: 1 Peter 5:6 "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you"

Q: To "humble" yourself, means to "be low". Humility is "positional" in relation to something. In this case it's our position to God's. How can we "humble ourselves"?

Q: What's the difference between humility and being humbled? Which is better? Why?

READ: James 4:6 "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

Q: What's the promise? What happens when we're arrogant?

READ: Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Q: How do we learn humility? Why is this better than arrogance and pride?

READ: Psalm 149:4 "For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with salvation."

Q: What's the connection between humility and salvation?

Q: Why is "works righteousness" arrogant?

Q: Why is "salvation by grace through faith" humble?

READ: Proverbs 16:18-19 "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. ¹⁹ It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud."

Q: What's the promise here?

Q: Why does it often look like the "proud" have more "stuff", "success" than the humble? How do we remain humble when arrogance seems so pervasive and tempting?