

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE FOLLOWING JESUS' HUMILITY

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." Matthew 5:5-6 (ESV)

²⁵ But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ²⁶ It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, ²⁸ even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Matthew 20:25-28 (ESV)

⁷ Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸ "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." Luke 14:7-11 (ESV)

"And he said to them, "You [Pharisees] are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God." Luke 16:15 (ESV)

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you." 1 Peter 5:6-7 (ESV)

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Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Share a high and a low.
- Is there a time that you can remember where in hindsight, you were way too arrogant and should have been humble?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Read Luke 18:9-14. What is the difference between being thankful for the Spirit and arrogant?
- Read Luke 18:9-14. Who is the subject of the Pharisee's prayer?
- Read Psalm 51 (David's prayer after adultery). How does it differ from the Pharisee's in Luke 18:9-14? What can we learn from it?

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Use a question from N.T. Wright's "Luke: For Everyone" (107-108).
- One of the meta-themes of scripture is that the first, strongest, and wisest in the eyes of the world will be humbled, and God exalts the weak. Why do you think that is?
- Read 1 John 1:5-10. Is it through concealing our guilt, or revealing our guilt that we receive "good" status?
- On a scale of (1) humble and (10) arrogant jerk, where are you at?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Two parts of prayer that we often neglect are Adoration and Confession (ACTS acronym = Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication). Why are they important for a healthy prayer life?
- Are you feeling content right now? Explore the correlation in your life between contentment and humility / anxiety and arrogance.

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- "Father, give me a humble spirit which recognizes my need for you – and that I can't do life alone. Help me to fully rely on you, drawing my identity from your promises, not from my perceived goodness. Give me a joyful and content spirit of thanksgiving. Amen."

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three for 15 minutes:

1. What has God been teaching you in His word this week? Is there anything you need to repent of?
2. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
3. How's your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection)
4. Pray for one another.