

HANDOUT PART TWO DRESSED TO SERVE: “CLOTHE YOURSELF IN HUMILITY”

Putting On the Character of Christ. READ COLOSSIANS 3: 12-14

The 3rd Virtue "Humility is the Rarest and Fairest of all Christian Virtues" James 4:6

READ 1 PETER 5:5 “Putting On Humility” Humility is an Attitude of the Heart, a Way of Thinking. Not putting yourself down, but simply seeing yourself as the Bible says you are.

- **KEY: *Humility is the Opposite of Pride...Pride is the Wrong Estimation of Yourself.***

READ Luke 18:10-14 The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector {Mis-Placed Confidence!}

Pride Focuses on what I Deserve and that Creates Dissatisfaction. But Humility Appreciates Everything...Humility Gives Way to a Thankful Heart!

Without Humility You Will be Deceived. You Will Buy the Lie that You have Been Mistreated by God. Colossians 3:12: As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, *Clothe Yourselves with Humility.*

A Proud Person has an Over-inflated View of Themselves. Their “Self-interested” Ego leads them to believe that they are somehow better than those around them...And they do not Need to Follow God’s Direction.

- Therefore, they tend to do what they want to do...To be led by their own direction and decisions and...They are Extremely Reluctant to follow Anyone Else’s Lead...Including God’s!

READ Philippians 2: 2-8 “Imitating Christ’s Humility!”

Question For Us...Are We Willing To Do the Same?!

Being Humble is Synonymous with Being Obedient.

- *Humility is Being obedient to God and being obedient to those God put around us who will speak wisdom into our lives.*
- Humility Recognizes that we are NOT able to Always make the Right Decisions.
- Humility realizes that we sometimes lack the wisdom and experience that help us make the right choices.
- Humility Understands that we often get things wrong and Make Mistakes...And that We Need Others and We Can’t Always Manage on Our Own.
- *Humility is when we do not focus on ourselves in pride & self-pity, but to honor others and God.*
- **If We Clothe Ourselves in Humility We Open Ourselves to the Grace of God.**

PROBLEM...Humility Is NOT Natural to Our Fallen Natures. But when Jesus Saves Us and Fills Us with His Spirit, We Begin to Change... It Doesn’t Happen Automatically. We Must Make an Effort

Here are a Few Suggestions for how to Put on Humility:

Listen to Others: I believe that this is one of the hardest things to do...I have really grown to appreciate those who have this Humble Spirit!

You Know...While listening You try to think of the next thing You’re going to say. If you find Yourself Interjecting, “But... But... But” it’s usually a Tipoff that You’re Probably NOT Listening.

Be Teachable: *A sign you’re not teachable is if you can’t wait for people to stop telling you something. You keep thinking I know that, I know that.... yes, I already know that – aargh!*

2 Timothy 3:16 says, *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.*

A Teachable Spirit Allows God to Work in Your Life and Use it for Good!

Don't Blame Others for Your Sins: *Well I wouldn't have smashed your windshield if you hadn't first given me that funny look. Or, I wouldn't have gotten angry at you if you hadn't rolled your eyes at me!*

- You see, when someone rolls their eyes at me I fly into an uncontrollable rage. In fact, You caused my rage. **It's actually your sin.**

Genesis 3:12-13: *The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."*

- **The Blame Game...Keeps God from Working in our Lives!**

KEY TIP: Take an interest in others: Other people are really interesting and fascinating.

Probably not as interesting and fascinating as you, but try to take an interest in them anyway. A humble person tries to draw others out... Asking them questions about themselves, How many times have you been stung? Have you ever gone into anaphylactic shock? Are you any relation to Billy the Exterminator?" **Humble people are interested in others.**

Ask for Forgiveness; Don't just say I'm sorry: Say "Please Forgive Me for..." Don't say, "I'm sorry if you were offended by my "oh so tactful" comments.

Ask for Prayer for Areas of Weakness and Temptation:

- It's humbling to ask others to pray for us because that's admitting we're weak...And we want everyone to think we're strong.

Clothe Yourself with Humility. Cover Yourself In It.

- If You Don't Believe that God's Command Alone is Enough...Then do it for this Reason – *"God Opposes the Proud but Gives Grace to the Humble."*

TODAYS "LIFE" POINT: "Be Humble Or You'll Stumble!"