

LESSONS THAT SHAPE OUR LIFE 4 - HUMILITY

It's hard to tell someone how humble you are without dealing with some pride. HUMILITY IS A LIFE-LONG, ON-GOING LESSON TO BECOME LIKE CHRIST

I. WHO IS THE GREATEST?

Mark 10:36 And He said to them (JAMES AND JOHN), "What do you want Me to do for you?" **37** They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory." **38** But Jesus said to them, "**You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?**" **39** They said to Him, "We are able." So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; **40** but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared." **41** And when the ten heard it, they **began to be greatly displeased** with James and John. **42** But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them." **43** Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. (DEACON)**44** And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. (BOND-SERVANT) **45** For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

- ***The Greatest (IN GOD'S EYES) is the one who is willing to take the place with the least reward or recognition***
- ***Humility is the willingness to let go of my own agenda and trust that God's plan and purpose for me will still come to pass.***

A. ADVANCEMENT AND PROMOTION ARE THE MEASUREMENT THE WORLD USES TO DECIDE THE WINNERS AND LOSERS

1. LEADERSHIP AND HUMILITY ARE THE SAME THING

- **JESUS DIDN'T SAY NO**
- **HE SAID, "ARE YOU ABLE TO DRINK THE CUP THAT I DRINK?"**
- **THEN HE SAID, "IT'S NOT MINE TO GIVE BECAUSE IT'S ALREADY BEEN PREPARED FOR SOMEONE" Someone gets it!**

- **THE LESSON WAS ABOUT BEING A SERVANT LEADER** - *One who comes under others to hold them up and provide what they need to be successful.*

2. WE NEED THE MIND OF CHRIST

Phil. 2:1 *Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy,* ² *fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.* ³ **Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.** ⁴ **Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.**

Phil. 2:5 **Let this mind (ATTITUDE, MINDSET, OUTLOOK) be in you** *which was also in Christ Jesus,* ⁶ *who, being in the form of God, **did not consider it robbery (GRASPING- like a shop-lifter) to be equal with God,*** ⁷ *but made Himself of **no reputation,** (REPUTATION IS WHAT OTHERS THINK OF YOU) taking the form of a **bondservant,** and coming in the likeness of men.* ⁸ *And being found in appearance as a man, He **humbled Himself** and became **obedient** to the point of death, even the death of the cross.* ⁹ **Therefore God also has highly exalted Him** *and given Him the **name (TITLE/ POSITION) which is above every name,*** ¹⁰ *that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,* ¹¹ *and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

3. HUMILITY DESCRIBES HOW JESUS THINKS

- **HUMILITY IS THE DECISION TO LIVE FREE FROM ENTITLEMENT**
- **HUMILITY IS THE WILLINGNESS TO SUFFER WANT SO THAT OTHERS MIGHT HAVE WHAT THEY NEED**
- **HUMILITY IS THE WILLINGNESS TO BE KNOWN FOR WHO WE TRULY ARE - GERRY FRY**
- **HUMILITY IS NOT TO THINK LESS OF OURSELVES, BUT TO THINK OF OURSELVES LESS - KRIS VALLOTTON**

- **HUMILITY IS THE GRATITUDE THAT KNOWS THAT WE WHO DESERVE NOTHING HAVE BEEN GIVEN ALL THINGS IN JESUS CHRIST**

II. HOW TO GROW THE HUMILITY IN OUR LIFE. *OUR HUMILITY IS MEANT TO GROW IN THREE DIRECTIONS AT ONCE*

A. HUMILITY BEFORE GOD Recognizes His Excellence

- **Humility before God is submission to his Lordship**
- **Honor, reward and success are linked to humility**

Prov. 22:4 *By **humility** and the fear of the LORD are **riches and honor and life.***

Prov. 18:12 ***Before destruction** the heart of a man is haughty, and **before honor is humility.***

Prov. 15:33 *The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom, and **before honor is humility.***

James 4:10 ***Humble yourselves** in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up. (HUMBLING YOURSELF IS MUCH BETTER THAN BEING HUMBLIED)*

B. HUMILITY BEFORE OTHERS Recognizes our own Fallibility

- ***Relationships are the testing ground for my spiritual maturity and the level of freedom and humility I walk in***
- **Humility before others is a mutual, relational submission that honors authority and prioritizes what others need**

Prov. 15:31 *The ear that hears **the rebukes of life** Will abide among the wise.*

- **Nothing demonstrates humility more than your response to correction. *HOW MUCH DOES IT COST others to correct you?***
- **Humility before others values what our elders and leaders carry**

1Pet. 5:5 *Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.” ⁶ Therefore humble*

yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

ILLUSTRATION- MY PASTORAL INTERNSHIP

Dr William Pickthorn • Dr Emil Balliet • Dr Robert Ashcroft

*In order to draw from the treasure of our elder's wisdom it requires a level of humility that is willing to listen and receive. **As we become good sons to the fathers in our life, humility will increase.***

- ***EXTENDING FORGIVENESS to others is one of the most practical ways to walk in humility.***

C. PERSONAL HUMILITY is Practical Humility

- ***Practical humility is Teachability and freedom from Defensiveness - LEARN TO RECOGNIZE THE VALUE OF REBUKE FROM PROVERBS***

Prov. 1:23 Turn at my rebuke; Surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you.

Prov. 13:18 Poverty and shame will come to him who disdains correction, But he who regards a rebuke will be honored.

PROV. 15:32 He who disdains instruction despises his own soul, But he who heeds rebuke gets understanding.

Prov. 25:12 Like an earring of gold and an ornament of fine gold Is a wise rebuker to an obedient ear.

- ***REBUKE IS NOT MEANT TO BE UGLY OR CONFRONTATIONAL, most people rebuke only when angry. IT IS MEANT TO INCREASE THE BEAUTY OF THE PERSON WHO LISTENS TO IT! Correction is a gift!***
- ***PRIDE IS THE EXAGGERATED BELIEF OF OUR SUPERIORITY OVER OTHERS. PRIDE EXALTS ITSELF. IT IS THE DEVIL'S SIN OF ARROGANCE IN HUMAN SHAPE (TO BE LIKE GOD)***

Prov. 11:2 When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble is wisdom.

III. WHEN I AM WEAK THEN I AM STRONG

2 Cor. 12:10 *Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities (NOT SICKNESS, LITERALLY WEAKNESS), in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

- **Humility is the leadership style of Jesus**
- **Humility is the key to releasing more grace** in every situation
- **Humility is the key to hearing his voice.** The proud heart thinks it already knows best. The proud heart thinks there will be recognition for solving problems and finding success before others do. *God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble*
- **Out of humility, God heals our land.** 2 CHRON 7:14
- **The humble will be exalted**

OUR HUMILITY LESSONS FOR MINISTRY

EARLY SUCCESS AND GRAND IDEAS SOMETIMES DON'T TURN OUT LIKE YOU IMAGINE. DON'T SELL (TRADE) WHO WE ARE - INVEST IT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

BETRAYAL AND CRITICISM CAN SHUT YOU DOWN OR BURN YOU OUT. FORGIVENESS IS HIGH LEVEL HUMILITY

WE MINISTER TO MORE PEOPLE OUTSIDE THE WALLS OF OUR CHURCH THAN INSIDE THE WALLS OF OUR CHURCH. THE CHALLENGE IS, **WE CAN'T MEASURE THAT OR COUNT IT!**

COME TO TERMS WITH YOUR NEED FOR A GOOD REPUTATION, RECOGNITION FOR WHAT YOU DO AND WORLDLY SUCCESS

PRIDE IS THE PATH TO FOOLISHNESS. HUMILITY IS THE PATH TO WISDOM. STAY ON THE RIGHT PATH!