

Leadership: Humility

“He knows better than I do”

Foundation Scriptures - True humility is agreement with the truth!

1 Timothy 4:12-16 (young leadership)

1 Peter 5:5-6 (humble yourselves)

John 3:30 (I decrease, He increases)

Definition “Humility” - the quality or condition of being humble; modest opinion or estimate of one's own importance, rank, etc.

“Humble” – not proud or arrogant; modest; courteously respectful

Introduction

- **Your ability to lead is only as great as your ability to serve** – if you are sowing seeds now, what seeds of service are you sowing now that you will reap later?(i.e. Me and Niki served in a youth ministry and were faithful before being in leadership)
- Serving is a part of humility
- Being humble is recognizing that God is God, and I can do nothing unless He is doing it with me, and through me.
- [Matt. 23:12 \[AMP\]](#) (Proverbs 11:2)

Question???

Am I living to glorify myself or God?

[John 13:1-20](#)

The Lord knew his time on earth was ending. This was the last time he would be with all his disciples. What does John say was on his mind? **His love for the disciples. And out of love he taught them one last lesson - humility.** In order to fulfill the mission of spreading the gospel, the disciples would need to learn to serve. Pride and arrogance would ruin the disciples' relationship to God, to each other, and to the people they were trying to save.

***Humility and service to others is the evidence of love.**

Humility and love go hand and hand, just like pride and lust.

Jesus showed humility by doing the task that no one wanted to do. He washed the disciples' feet -- a dirty job usually performed by the lowest ranking person

in the room. Did he think it was too lowly a task for him to do? No. Even Judas, who left that table to betray the Lord, had his feet washed by Jesus. Jesus put himself in a position of servitude to his own betrayer.

Are there tasks that we won't do because they are lowly? Because they are dirty? Because they are unpleasant or hard? But aren't those the jobs that most need to be done? We need to be willing to do whatever is needed. Jesus was not only willing, he prepared himself to do this service. Have we made plans to serve others?

Pride will get you in a stressful situation even if you desire to follow God. Pride will hinder God's anointing in your life!

EXAMPLE: Abraham - Genesis 12-13

- God told him not to take his family – but he disobeyed and took Lot
- God told him to go to a land that he will show Abraham – but he went to Egypt, where he had to lie and say his wife was his sister. He experience famine because he didn't follow God.
- It wasn't until Abraham separated from Lot that he could get instructions from God. (Gen. 13:14-18)

*If its been awhile since you have heard the Lord speaking to you, or it seems that your vision has been stagnating instead of manifesting, make sure you don't have pride blocking your way.

*Pride is easiest to fall in after great victories.

Pride is meant to totally disconnect you from the voice of God and His will for your life! – That's why Jesus had to always remain humble to continue to get his instructions from the Father.

The S.K.D. TRAP

1 John 2:16

John 10:10

STEAL/Lust of the flesh – Materialism. The devil comes to steal your power and anointing, love of money (an idol). (1 Tim. 6:10)

KILL/Lust of the eye – looking upon a woman lustfully is like committing adultery which is sinning against your own body – killing your self (Prov. 7:10, 22-23, Matt 5:28, 1 Cor. 6:18, Romans 6:23)

DESTROY/Pride of life – pride comes before destruction (Prov. 16:18, 18:12)

What are sins of pride?

- criticizing and judging
- arrogance
- false security
- robbing God of His glory
- you don't want to give everything to God
- self-righteousness
- know-it-all
- above accountability
- you think you are humble already
- you must be first
- ungrateful
- interrupt people often and don't listen
- **you resent people who correct you**
- things must be done your way
- you talk about yourself all the time
- you feel like you are better than others

“When destruction walks through the land, it casts its shadow; it is in the shape of pride. When honor visits a man's house, it casts its shadow before it; it is in the fashion of humility.” –**Rev. C. H. Spurgeon**

Lucifer was cast down because of **Pride**. Ultimately it led to his destruction.
Isaiah 14:12-15 (Proverbs 8:13)

MORE SCRIPTURES

Matthew 5:3, 11:29, **20:28**

Good things come to them that are humble

Ps. 37:11

Proverbs 22:4, 15:33

The more confidence you put in God and lose in yourself, the more power God can trust you with.

John 8:50 – “And I seek not mine own glory...”

How to gain humility:**FIRST – Submit yourself everyday to God. Let Him give you direction!**

1) Purposely seek humility. Don't just let it come. Seek it. We are commanded to be humble so I should prize this character rather than adore it as some distant trophy.

2) Confess your sins to God and others quickly. Humility rides on the back of confession. And confession rides on the back of honesty. Without complete honesty, I am deceiving myself and others but never God. I might perceive myself as humble but am not as long as I am not honest. Confession is honest admission of our faults.

3) Start praising others. By this, I do not mean to flatter people -praise those vain things like dress and looks. Look at others as God's precious gifts to you. You and I cannot do without them. As we see the importance of others around them, we will thank them and praise them. Our compliments will become real.

4) Carefully listen to others when they are going through humbling times. I figure that part of the humble experiences I go through are because I have not learned from the cues God has earlier given to me. We will need to go through humble times of course but why increase them! Pay attention to lessons God is teaching others. Self-examination can greatly increase our wisdom.

5) Live as if you cannot live without those near you. We are interdependent creatures. We need each other. The church is His body. We are members of one another. Because of this, we love one another. We treasure one another. We will assume the best of each other (1 Corinthians 13). This attitude is crucial for good brotherly leadership.

6) Don't criticize others as if you haven't sinned. One day we will judge with Christ but right now it is best that each time we see another sin, we remember when we have sinned in a like way, or even in a worse way. Then pray for God's grace for that man or woman.

7) Accept the fact that God can accomplish His plan without us. Any moment the Lord can take us home, and He will not at all be frustrated in accomplishing His good and perfect will. We are not invaluable in such and such a plan. He might have no such plan or have someone play that part.

8) All good is given from above. We have nothing that has not been given from above. I usually tamper this statement by saying we have nothing good

that has not been given from God (John 3:27; James 1:27). We are humbled by seeing that we are vessels or stewards rather than some creator of good.

9) Spiritual gifts are distributed by the Spirit. I might be greatly used of the Lord because of my spiritual gifts, but these were given to me from God. If He would withdraw them, then I could do nothing. Spiritual gifts are a reminder that I will be held to a higher standard than others in certain areas. (Exodus 36:1)

10) Get closer to God. I only need to draw an inch closer to God and my weaknesses, frailties become very apparent. And this is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. (1 John 1:5).

11) Study God's Word. By examining God's Word, we can come closer to God. We expose ourselves to God's precious truths, and they teach us His way. We see our ignorance of His ways. "Thou hast ordained Thy precepts, That we should keep them diligently." (Psalms 119:4). Read how Josiah the King discovered the scriptures and what happened.

12) Examine yourselves. Read through Revelations 2-3 where Jesus examines each of the churches. What honest and constructive criticism would He give you?

ILLUSTRATION: Pride dulls your intimacy with God. It can be as simple as choosing natural reasoning over God's plan ~ Proverbs 14:12

Each glove represents a different level of pride. A dime is used represent hearing God's voice/intimacy with God. Being able to pick up this dime means you can hear God's voice clearly. The first glove is a thin plastic glove. The gloves get thicker as you continue in pride → thin winter glove, heavy winter glove, oven mitt, and baseball mitt.

1st Glove: Listening to people who say I'm awesome.

2nd Glove: Not listening to youth leaders about securing our building/Girl gets raped

3rd Glove: Taking preaching engagements against God's will

4th Glove: Going alone/Dinner/Hotel w/lady- adultery

5th Glove: Not repenting/Going to sort it out in FL even though God said stay/Accident while trying to pick up dime for toll – ultimately ends up dying due to injuries sustained