

Part 3: Humility Pastor Grant Fishbook August 14 & 15

My Personal Conviction:

When pride walks on to a stage, Jesus walks off.

A Troubling Concept:

The second you believe that you are truly humble, you're not.

The painful truth of arrogance:

I wrote to the church, but **Diotrephes, who loves to be first**, will have nothing to do with us. – 3 John 1:9

The penalty for arrogance:

Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

- 1 Peter 5:5

The perfect picture of <u>authentic</u> humility:

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, **but made himself nothing,** taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, **he humbled himself and became obedient to death— even death on a cross!** – *Philippians 2:3-8*

The challenge of humility:

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you. — *Hebrews 13:17*

A caution to leaders:

Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. -1 Peter 5:2-3

The promise of humility:

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.

 $\label{prop:linear} \textbf{Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.}$

- James 4:7-10

The order of humility:

Humility looks: 1. Up (to God)

2. Out (to others)

3. In (to self)

Next Steps

If you raised your hand to receive Christ today, take a bold step to come down to the front of the stage after today's service and share your decision with a member of the After Service Care Team. They will be happy to pray with you and answer any questions you have. If you're not able to come forward today, we invite you to call Wendy Powell this week (733-1337) and make an appointment to chat with Pastor Felix Anderson. He'll help you understand the basics of your decision and explain how you can get started reading the Bible, exploring prayer, and finding places to serve others.

On Your Way Home

How does humility factor into the everyday task of driving home? Think about the types of people you observe along the way and the way you handle yourself on the road.

Small Group & Personal Reflection Ouestions

- 1) Who is the most genuinely humble person you have ever met? What do you believe makes that person so humble?
- 2) How do you think a person can guard himself or herself from arrogance? Have you found anything helpful in your experience?
- 3) Why do you believe people struggle being under authority? Whose authority have you willingly placed yourself under? What are the benefits of "bending your knee?"
- 4) Read all of the passages listed above again. How would you define humility in ten words or less?
- 5) How can we pray for you tonight?