

Introduction: Humility is the most _____ of virtues. It is hard to define, difficult to _____ and impossible to _____, "The proud man can learn humility, but he will be proud of it." -Mignon McLaughlin

- God _____ pride. Proverbs 8:13 To fear the LORD is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech. Pride is a little easier to identify because we are more _____ with it. Humility and knowledge in poor clothes excel pride and ignorance in costly attire. William Penn
- In spite of this Jesus made it abundantly clear that humility would be the path to _____. Mark 9:33 They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" 34 But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. 35 Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all."
- Jesus, in his incarnation, was the _____ of humility. "Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him." (John 13:3-5, ESV)
- Humility is the proper response to the _____. "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love," (Ephesians 4:1-2, ESV)
- In 1 Peter 5 we learn
- Humility is required of _____
- Humility is required in our relationship _____
- Humility is requires in our relationship with _____

Key thought: Humility is having a _____ of yourself. To humble yourself before God is to admit to God what he has known all along. To be humble is to act out of that proper assessment of yourself. In this sermon we are going to try to get a grip on what humility is, next week, how do we attain it. "For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned." (Romans 12:3, ESV)

- I. Humility is being _____ about yourself. Nothing reveals the human condition more than the _____ of Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:3-4) The gospel is a four part story- the story of the Bible. Each part of this story reveals something about us to us. There are two things that are suited to humble the souls of men... A due consideration of God and then of ourselves. Of God, in his greatness, glory, holiness, power, majesty, and authority; of ourselves, in our mean, abject and sinful condition." John Owen
 - A. We are created beings.' Genesis 1 and 2
 1. We are contingent beings- we depend on someone else for our existence.
 2. We are communal beings- we depend on others for our satisfaction in life.
 3. We are gifted beings- meant to use our talents to take care of the world God gave us
 4. We are stewards- we will answer to another for what we have done with His gifts and resources,
 5. Idolatry locates our identity in the created thing, rather than our creator,(Romans 1:24-25)
 Illustration of FB
 - B. We are fallen beings.
 1. We are separated from God because of our sin.
 2. We are separated from one another because of our sin
 3. We are separated from ourselves because of sin,
 4. We nor this world is the way it is supposed to be!! Therefore we are constantly striving to understand ourselves and the world. We are meaning makers, we ask why?
 5. To find meaning we search creation, we demand someone else give it to me or we look within,
 - C. We are redeemed creatures.

1. We find our faith in what another has done for us. “But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.” (Galatians 6:14, ESV)
 2. We find our love in what another has done for us, “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” (1 John 4:7–10, ESV)
 3. We find our hope in what another will do for us, “Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.” (1 John 3:2–3, ESV)
 4. We are therefore to live Christ-centered lives. Our lives are not our own we have been bought with a price,
- D. We are glorified creatures- remember from last week as are “seated in the heavenliness in Christ,
1. We lay up treasure in heaven
 2. We live for eternal rewards
 3. Our lives are a pilgrimage
- E. This is our identity, this is foundation of humility,
- II. Humility can be recognized by our response to _____, Grace is God’s favor, God’s blessing, God’s enablement and it is always “unmerited” or _____.
- It cannot be earned, but it can be received and responded to, Humility is marked by:
- A. A deep desire to submit to God first and foremost in all things. Romans 12:1,2 with no demands: “Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated— of whom the world was not worthy— wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised,” (Hebrews 11:35–39, ESV)
 - B. A change in what I love, “For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,” (Titus 2:11–12, ESV)
 - C. A change in who I love. “When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, you shall not strip it afterward. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow. You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt; therefore I command you to do this.” (Deuteronomy 24:21–22, ESV)
 - D. A change in what I talk about: “But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” (2 Corinthians 12:9–10, ESV)

Conclusion

- Humility in leadership is marked by service. (1 Peter 1:1-5). It is marked by putting the flock before yourself, You oversee, but do not dominate. You speak the truth in love,
- Humility in the body is marked by not trying to be like others, yet recognize you need others 1 Corinthians 12
- Humility before God means- In antiquity a common sign of vassalage was the taking off of the diadem (symbol of royalty) by the conquered ruler and placing of the diadem at the feet of the conqueror. Cicero Humility is more than just a virtue: it is a form of perception, a language in which the "I" is silent so that I can hear the "Thou." Rabbi Johnathan Sachs