

Proverbs

A FIELD GUIDE
TO WINNING AT LIFE

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

Humility
God's Path to Greatness



Two things about the book of Proverbs that stand out:

- 1 - The value God places on living according to His wisdom.
- 2 - The importance of humility.

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Proverbs 3:34

“He mocks proud mockers but shows favor to the humble and oppressed.”

Proverbs 11:2

“When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.”

Proverbs 15:33

“Wisdom’s instruction is to fear the Lord, and humility comes before honor.”

Proverbs 22:4

“Humility is the fear of the Lord; it’s wages are riches and honor and life.”

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Benefits To Being Humble

(and downsides to not embracing humility):

Divine rescue from trouble...

“You save the humble but bring low those whose eyes are haughty.” **Psalm 18:27**

God-given direction and guidance...

“He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them His way.” **Psalm 25:9**

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Benefits To Being Humble

(and downsides to not embracing humility):

Supernatural strength to endure tough circumstances...

“The Lord sustains the humble but casts the wicked to the ground.” **Psalm 147:6**

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Benefits To Being Humble

(and downsides to not embracing humility):

Unnatural joy for those in unfortunate situations...

“Once more the humble will rejoice in the LORD; the needy will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.”

Isaiah 29:19

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Benefits To Being Humble

(and downsides to not embracing humility):

Direct access to God's personal attention...

*“Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to **humble** yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them.”*

Daniel 10:12



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Two Critical Questions:

I. Why is humility so valuable to God?

The answer: Because it is one of His most defining attributes!!!

“Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” **Matt. 11:29**

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“In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death- even death on a cross!” **Philippians 2:5-8**

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Jesus' Humility:

- ✧ He lowered Himself from divine to human
- ✧ He lowered Himself from powerful authority to obedient servant
- ✧ He lowered Himself from the giver of life to the recipient of death

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Knowing God is knowing humility in its
greatest expressions!

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Two Critical Questions:

2 - How do we live in humility?

The answer: God's Word calls us to demonstrate this divine quality in our lives:

“Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with... humility.”

Colossians 3:12

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Living in Humility

The Promotion of Others

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”

Philippians 2:3-4

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Living in Humility

Submission To Others

“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”

Ephesians 5:21

Submit = to put oneself below

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Living in Humility

Vulnerability Towards Others

*“And being found...in appearance as a man...
He humbled Himself...”* **Philippians 2:8**

**God allowed Himself to be “found”
....to be known**

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Living in Humility

Notice a trend?

Humility is all about others, and it requires you to stop focusing so much on YOU!

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When we begin to humble ourselves, we begin to see the miraculous work of God in our community and in our world:

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and forgive their sin and heal their land.”

2 Chronicles 7:14

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Humility comes in two ways:

- 1 - You choose to discipline yourself to live in humility
- 2 - Life circumstances force you to live in humility

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Though humility is most visibly demonstrated in our relationships with people, it is even more important to apply it in our relationship with God...

Are you promoting His interests?
Are you submitting to Him?
Are you vulnerable to Him?

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