The Virtue of Humility

Agape Life Church April 24, 2022

God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble*. Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you…* ***Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.*** James 4:6-10

Humility - The Great Ally of Grace

We live in an age that is boastful and defiant toward a Holy God. As followers of Christ, should demonstrate a posture of humility before God and in our relationships with others, and He will lift us up!

The degree of humbleness we walk in governs the measure of grace we discover.

Following Christ _____ walking in humility.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for ***I am meek and lowly in heart****: and you shall find rest unto your souls.* Matthew 11:29

We cannot separate the character virtue of humility from a walk in the grace of God and developing Christ-likeness.

Who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ***but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men****. And being found in human form,* ***He humbled Himself*** *by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.* ***Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name.*** Phil. 2:6–10 ESV

Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time. 1 Peter 5:6

The measure of humility we have before God, determines the degree of your _____ to God.

Walking in humility defeats pride.

Pride places us in a terrible predicament.

Pride frustrates the grace of God. Galatians 2:21

Pride puts us at odds with God; *He resists the proud*.

Core Point: As we allow the virtue of humility to become a practice in our spiritual walk, we find a greater flow of grace with God. If we avoid and resist the growth of humility, we will limit the turnaround we seek from God.

Doing things our way ***is assuming a position we are not _____ to hold.***

Satan works at inflating ego and encouraging us to do things our own way. God wants us to depend on His grace, while the devil wants us to depend on ourselves, which always leads to **downfall**.

Even though David was a king, he never stopped being that shepherd boy that Samuel anointed. He never let his success or the place God had given him change him. **He remained a humble servant of God.** When he did fail he humbled himself before God.

Humility - The Key To Every Turnaround With God

A common denominator in every Biblical turnaround is the process of **humbling ourselves before Almighty God**.

So ***humble yourselves*** *under the mighty power of God, and at the right time He will lift you up in honor.* 1 Peter 5:6 NLB

We can either humble ourselves or God will humble us. He suggests that we humble ourselves.

Then Hezekiah repented of the pride of his heart, as did the people of Jerusalem; therefore the LORD's wrath did not come on them during the days of Hezekiah. 2 Chron. 32:26

Humbling ourselves before God requires submission to Him. James 4:6-10

We demonstrate submission to God several ways:

1. Submitting to His Word and Spirit.
2. Submitting to God given authority.
3. Submitting to the Spirit -led ongoing plan of God for your life.
4. Resisting all rebellion opportunities.
5. Being a faithful part of the church can teach us humility.

A life of service to Christ _____ a practice of humility.

Humbling Ourselves before God Includes a Humble Prayer Life. Luke 18:9-14

Jesus teaches us that it is not only important to pray, but that it is crucial that we pray with a **humble attitude** before our wonderful and gracious God.

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 I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.* 2 Chronicles 7:14

Core Statement: As I humble myself before Almighty God, I release the power of my spiritual life in Christ. This is the answer to every problem and question I face. God shows up, and will never let me down. He will show the strength of His grace to me!