



Humility

The Precursor to All Kingdom Advancement

F U L F I L L M E N T

Rev. Fred A. Hartley, III
December 2017

*"God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you."
James 4:6-7*

*"Humble yourself therefore under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you."
1 Peter 5:6*

*"The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honor and life."
Proverbs 22:4*

*"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience."
Colossians 3:12*

Humility is the low pressure zone that always attracts the weather pattern of the Holy Spirit.

Humility is the willingness to be known for who I am.

A. Exposing False Humility

"There is one vice of which no man in the world is free; which everyone in the world loathes when he sees it in someone else; and of which hardly any people, except Christians, ever imagine they are guilty themselves...the vice I am speaking of is Pride, or Self-Conceit; and the virtue opposite to it, in Christian morals, is called humility."

"In God you come up against something which is in every respect immeasurably superior to yourself. Unless you know God as that—and, therefore, know yourselves as nothing in comparison—you do not know God at all. As long as you are proud, you cannot know God. A proud man is always looking down on things and people: and, of course, as long as you are looking down you cannot see something above you."

- C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity* (Harper-Collins Publishers Limited)



Twisted Pride



True Humility



Distorted Inferiority

True humility is self-forgetfulness.

1. The greatest enemy of humility is not our pride, but the shroud of false humility.

*"Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of heaven in people's faces."
Matthew 23:13*

2. False humility hides behind prayer.

"When you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray." Matthew 6:5

3. False humility hides behind fasting.

"When you fast do not look gloomy like the hypocrites." Matthew 6:16

4. Fasting hides behind tithing.

"When you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you like the hypocrites do...when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing." Matthew 6:1,3

5. False humility hides behind worship.

"This people honors Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me." Matthew 15:8

"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted." Matthew 23:12

Humility is the place of entire dependence on God.

- Andrew Murray, Humility, p.12

B. Gaining True Humility

1. Embrace your own humanity.

"All flesh is grass and all its beauty is like a flower of the field. The grass withers and the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flower fades, but the Word of God will stand forever." Isaiah 40:6-8

2. Discover your own sinfulness and depravity.

"None is righteous, no not one. No one understands, no one seeks for God. All have turned astray together they have become worthless. No one does good, not even one...For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3:10-23

3. Encounter Christ's deity.

"Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips. For my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Hosts!" Isaiah 6:5

Humility begins when we encounter our humanity, it grows as we discover our depravity, but it only matures as encounter deity.

9 Ways to Grow in True Humility

1. Encountering the manifest presence of Christ brings true humility. Revelation 1:17
2. Relinquishing control of my body brings true humility. Romans 12:1
3. Choosing to obey Christ brings true humility. 1 Peter 5:6
4. Using my motivational gifts brings true humility. Romans 12:3-8
5. Cultivating genuine friendships brings true humility. Proverbs 17:17
6. Throwing off the fear of man brings true humility. Proverbs 29:25
7. Giving thanks to God brings true humility. Romans 1:21
8. Deflecting praise to God and others brings true humility. Proverbs 17:3
9. Being filled with the Holy Spirit brings true humility. Ephesians 5:8

[This teaching can be heard in its entirety from the podcast September 5, 2014 "The Power of True Humility"]

C. Fresh Revelation About True Humility

1. True humility is the foundational reality of the kingdom.

Nothing invites the manifest presence of Christ to come more quickly to come than humility and nothing repels the manifest presence of Christ more quickly than pride.

2. It is absolutely impossible to grow as a kingdom leader without growing in true humility.

Nothing disqualifies a kingdom leader faster than pride. What a warning! We grow in true humility not to draw attention to ourselves, but to more effectively draw attention to Christ.

"It is not sin that humbles most people, but grace." – Andrew Murray, Humility, p.5

3. True humility is not a place, but a process.

Death to self is a lifelong process to be embraced as we grow in Christ.

"Humility is nothing but the disappearance of self in the vision that God is all. The holiest will be the humblest." – Andrew Murray Humility: The Beauty of Holiness, p. 42

"Learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly of heart." Matthew 11:29

Get more great resources for spiritual growth at www.collegeofprayer.org.
Connect with us on social media at [/collegeofprayer](https://www.instagram.com/collegeofprayer):

