

5. GREATNESS THROUGH HUMILITY

Mt.18:1-4

1. WHO IS THE GREATEST IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN?

1. *"Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom heaven."* (Mt. 18:4)

2. EXCEPT YE BECOME AS LITTLE CHILDREN

1. Unconditional love
2. Loyalty
3. No bias or prejudice; no preconceived judgments or opinions
4. Brutally honest; not hypocritical
5. Trusting
6. Quick to forgive; do not harbor bitterness, strife, unforgiveness
7. Clean, pure, innocent - not contaminated with world
8. Humble (no pride, arrogance, haughtiness, feeling of self-importance)
9. Most behavior is learned; therefore we as parents...
 1. Must be careful how we train our children
 2. What kind of model do we exhibit?
 3. What values do we instill?
 4. What do we preach as being important?

3. HUMILITY IS ENJOINED

1. Mi. 6:8 - *"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"*
2. I Pe. 5:5 - *"Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth*

the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."

4. EXALTATION THROUGH HUMILITY

1. Ja. 4:10 - *"Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."*
2. Lu. 14:11 - *"For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."*
3. Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God that he may exalt you in due season...
4. Pr. 15:33 - *"...before honour is humility..."*
5. Mt. 20:26-28 - *"But whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."*
6. Mt. 23:11 - *"But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant."*
7. Phil. 2:8-9 - *"And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name..."*

5. PROMISES CONCERNING HUMILITY.

1. Pr. 22:4 - *"By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honour, and life."*
2. Is. 57:15 - *"For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."*

6. GENERAL EXAMPLES OF HUMILITY.

1. King Saul -

1. *"And Saul answered and said, Am not I a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel? and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? wherefore then speakest thou so to me?" (I Sam. 9:21)*
2. When thou wast little in thine own sight...
2. King David - *"Then went king David in, and sat before the Lord, and he said, Who am I, O Lord God? and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?" II Sam. 7:18)*
3. King Solomon - *"And now, O Lord my god, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in." (I Ki. 3:7)*
4. The Centurion - *"The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed." (Mt. 8:8)*

7. THE SIN OF PRIDE (Sin of the spirit)

1. Definitions
 1. Arrogance - full of unwarranted pride
 2. Conceit - exaggerated opinion of self
 3. Cockiness - self-confident in an aggressive way
 4. Haughty - pride with self and disdain for others
2. Pr. 8:13 - *"The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate."*
3. Pr. 11:2 - *"When pride cometh, then cometh shame."*
4. Pr. 16:18 - *"Pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall."*
5. Pr. 29:23 - *"Man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit."*
6. James 4:6 - *"...God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."*
7. I Tim. 3:6 - *"Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil."*

8. Spiritual pride - religious spirit
9. II Tim. 3:2 - *"Men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud..."*
10. Pride could be lack of self confidence; not knowing who you are

8. WHAT IS HUMILITY?

1. Not bringing attention to ourself
 1. Look what I've done; I'm better than you; spirit of competition
 2. To God be the glory; It's because of Him that we are what we are
2. Treating everyone the same
 1. Relating to all people
 2. "Condescend to men of low estate."
3. Ability to admit wrong
 1. I blew it; I've sinned
 2. I'm sorry; forgive me
4. Ability to forgive though you've been wronged
5. Don't let success spoil you

9. HUMBLING OURSELVES - *"Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God..."*

1. *"If my people who are called by my name shall humble themselves, pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (II Chr. 7:14)*
2. II Chr. 12:7 - *"And when the Lord saw that they humbled themselves, the word of the Lord came to Shemaiah, saying, They have humbled themselves; therefore I will not destroy them, but I will grant them some deliverance; and my wrath shall not be poured out upon ~~Jerusalem~~ by the hand of Shishak."*
3. II Chr. 32:26 - *"...Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the Lord came not upon them in the days of Jezekeiah."*

4. Ps. 35:13 - *"...I humbled my soul with fasting..."*
5. Lord, have mercy on me a sinner...