

GRACE NOTES

Series: Counter Culture

Message: **Living with Humility**

Scripture: Philippians 2:1-11

Date: Sunday, November 29, 2015



“For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” (Luke 18:14)

“Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.” (Prov 16:18)

Humility is a choice.

Philippians 2:1-11

1 *Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,* 2 *then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.* 3 *Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves,* 4 *not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.*

Followers of Jesus must remove themselves from the center of their lives.

5 *In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:* 6 *Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;* 7 *rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.* 8 *And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!* 9 *Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,* 10 *that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,* 11 *and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Followers of Jesus must begin to think like Jesus if they are to begin to act like Jesus.

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45)

Followers of Jesus must choose the way of humility desiring the approval of God rather than the applause of people.

“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.” (James 4:10)

STUDY NOTES

How does a person today “make a name” for themselves?

How important is it for people to see you as successful?

In what ways do Americans display their successes and achievements?

Thinking back to Sunday’s message - What challenged you, encouraged you, or caused you to change the way you think or act?

Read **Daniel 4:28-37**.

What is the attitude of King Nebuchadnezzar reflected in his words in verse 30?

What is God’s response to Nebuchadnezzar’s attitude? (verses 31-32)

How great was Nebuchadnezzar’s humbling? (verse 33)

How did Nebuchadnezzar’s attitude change from verse 31 to verses 34-35?

How does Matthew 23:12 fit into this story?

Read **Luke 18:10-14**.

Describe the differences in the attitudes of these two men who went to the temple to pray.

Was it wrong for the Pharisee to try to live a life different from that of the tax collector? If not, what was his problem?

How difficult is it not to compare our lives to those of others who may be living with consequences of bad decisions?

In what ways can Christians be prideful when it comes to living out their faith?

What is one thing you can do this week to fight pride and embrace humility?