

Quarter Two: Growing in a Relationship with God

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Lesson 3—Pride Versus Humility

Thursday: Look at Him

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- **Last Week:** “To Know God”
 - How to understand the true character of God – as revealed in His Word, nature & Jesus
- **This Week:** “Pride Versus Humility”
 - Impact of pride in our relationship with God & others, & what the Bible teaches about humility.
 - “Pride emerges from the desire to show that our lives have value.”

Memory Text: ““For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 14:11, NKJV).

The week in brief:

- 1. **Sunday:** The Tight Fingers of Pride (James)
 - 1 John 2 – origin of pride with Satan & Christ’s complete humility; understanding pride
- 2. **Monday:** Know Yourself (Ryan)
 - Luke 18 – the Pharisee vs the publican: recognition of our own sin & need for Jesus
- 3. **Tuesday:** Moses, Humble Servant (John L)
 - Heb 11 – the humility of Moses
- 4. **Wednesday:** The Greatest Offense (SQ)
 - Luke 22 – disciples’ argument about who was greatest & danger of self-sufficiency & the inability to see our true selves
- 5. **Thursday:** Look at Him (Jill)
 - Phil 2:3 – 8 – Jesus’ example of humility & servanthood; how we can look to Him & become like Him in character

Thursday: Look at Him

Luke 22:27; Phil 2:3 – 8; Ps 138

- Difficult to see ourselves:
 - Once we see ourselves & recognize the pride inside – how do we change?
 - Lesson: “Look at Him”
 - Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face
 - And the things of earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory & grace
- Two-fold focus:
 - 1. Jesus’ humility
 - 2. How to look at Jesus

- **Jesus' humility**

- Luke 22:27 – “For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? Yet I am among you as the One who serves.”
 - In context of the Last Supper
 - Ultimate example of humble servanthood is the death of Jesus (His body & blood) – broken & spilled for humanity
 - **Takeaway #1: Humility is not classified by human standards**
 - Class, distinction, social standing, how we perceive others – often we have it backwards
- Phil 2:3, 4 – “Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. (4) Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”
 - **Takeaway #2: Humility considers others before ourselves**
 - Look at others: consider them & their interests
 - *Don't try to top someone's story
 - *Don't take the glory for a project
 - *Don't consider your time or money or self as more important than someone else
 - *Give someone the last piece of cake or first bite of food or last ticket so they can experience it
- Phil 2:5, 6 – “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, (6) who, being in **the form** of God, did not consider it **robbery** to be equal with God,”
 - The form = Gk, *mor-fay* = designates the very nature of a person & consequently identifies Jesus as having the nature of God
 - Adam & Eve desired divine power (Gen 3), but they were only created in God's image
 - Jesus was the very nature of God, because He was God Himself
 - Robbery = Gk, used only here in Bible – “something to be used for one's own advantage” or “something to take advantage of”
 - Jesus Christ, even though He was fully divine, didn't use His divine nature for His own advantage
 - **Takeaway #3: Humility doesn't use position for personal gain or advantage**
- Phil 2:7 – “but made Himself of no reputation, taking **the form** of a **bondservant**, and coming in the likeness of men.”
 - The form = Gk, *mor-fay* = designates the very nature of a person & consequently identifies Jesus as possessing the nature of man
 - Jesus = fully divine; fully human at the incarnation
 - Bondservant = *doo-los* = Jesus identified with the lowest of the low, the slave; someone who belongs to another, without any ownership rights of their own
 - Used with the highest dignity in the NT, namely of believers who *willingly* live under Christ's authority as His devoted followers
 - **Takeaway #4: Humility identifies with others**

- Phil 2:8 – “And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”
 - **Takeaway #5: Humility suffers so others can go free**
- **“How to look at Jesus”**
 - **What:** know we need to look to Jesus
 - 2 Cor 3:18 – looking to Jesus transforms me
 - Heb 12:2 – looking to Jesus enables me to finish
 - Isa 45:22 – looking to Jesus saves me
 - **How:** how do we look to Jesus?

3 keys for “How to look at Jesus”

- **1. Look with spiritual eyes (by faith)**
 - Heb 11:27 – “By faith he (Moses) forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.”
 - Don’t literally see Jesus – we see Him by faith
 - See Him in God’s Word – John 1
 - See Him in nature – Rom 1
 - 2 Cor 5:7 – “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”
- **2. Look by choice**
 - Col 3:1, 2 – “If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. (2) Set your mind on things above, not on things of the earth.”
 - It is a choice to set your mind on God / Jesus – not things of the earth
 - Choices become habits
 - God doesn’t force us to look at Him – it’s a choice
- **3. Look to Jesus with your most pressing need**
 - Not just random thoughts about Jesus – but think of Him where you need it most
 - Charles Spurgeon: “From every text of Scripture there is a road to Jesus.”
 - Are you weak? Look to Him as your Strength.
 - Are you in addiction? Look to Him as your Deliverer.
 - Are you sad? Look to Him as your Joy.
 - Are you uncertain? Look to Him as your Guide.
 - Are you sinful? Look to Him as your Savior.
 - Isa 40:29 – “He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might, He increases strength.”
 - Scripture for every problem in life. Look to Jesus.

Jesus’ Humility

- #1: Humility is not classified by human standards
- #2: Humility considers others before ourselves
- #3: Humility doesn’t use position for personal gain or advantage
- #4: Humility identifies with others
- #5: Humility suffers so others can go free

How to Look at Jesus

- 1. Look with spiritual eyes (by faith)
 - It becomes more habitual the more you choose
- 2. Look by choice
 - Choose to look at Jesus
- 3. Look to Jesus with your most pressing need
 - Think of Him where you need Him most