



LIFEgroup Homework

Week of May 20, 2007

The Key to Greatness: Humility

Jesus made it clear that the key of humility unlocks the door to greatness. God humbled Himself by coming to earth in the form of Jesus. Jesus humbled Himself by leaving the glory he enjoyed in unlimited freedom and expression in Heaven, to limit Himself to a human body, cramped by time, and space and dimension. The best way to describe what Jesus willingly did is to consider what it means to choose to become a quadriplegic for the benefit of another. What a sacrifice Jesus made in order that we might become rich. (Rom 8:32)

Sharing Questions

- 1) What is it about America that produces people who have a reputation around the world for being arrogant, egotistical and domineering? Do you think that is an accurate generalization?

- 2) Describe what a “humble” church would look like in today’s world. Would it be large or small? Outspoken or shy? Popular or unpopular?

- 3) Describe a time when you needed to make yourself low, humble yourself and see another person as “better than yourself?” What made it so difficult/easy?

- 4) How does a “humble” church talk about neighboring churches? Pastors? Ministries?

Read Matthew 20:20-28

We learned that position and status have little to do with God’s ability to use us for His glory. This passage gives a contrast between Jesus’ heart for leadership and that of the ungodly rulers. Describe the difference between the two.

Read Psalm 18:35

Even God our Father was willing to “stoop” to our level because He loves us. Outside of what God did to humble Himself, what is an example from your life, of someone who “stooped” to meet people at their point of need?

Read 1 Corinthians 4:6-7

Because we are created in the image of God, we have infinite worth. Yet, that worth only comes because of our Heavenly Father and how He has designed each individual. What does this passage say to those who begin to compare themselves favorably against others?

There are two different kinds of people who are excited about constructing a new church building.

- 1) The **“serve us”** member is looking forward to enjoying and using the nice new facility as an upgrade to the old one.
- 2) The **“service”** oriented member is excited about the new opportunities for serving the community, inviting unbelievers to use the facility and making room for new people who are drawn to Christ.

Which of these two perspectives is the easier “sell” when asking people to partner in building a new facility? Why?

Read Mark 1:1-8

What can we learn from the humility of John the Baptist and his role in leading people to Jesus?

Read James 4:1-10

What is at the root of all conflict (road rage, divorce, war, terrorism)?

Who does God oppose?

What does God do for the humble? (vs 6 & 10)

Topical Prayer

1) Focus On One Topic At a Time.

Anyone in the group is free to introduce a prayer request either before or during the prayer time.

2) Keep Prayers Short & Simple

By keeping prayers short and simple, everyone has more of a chance to pray.

3) Pray More Than Once

Since the group is focusing on one topic at a time – each member is encouraged to pray several times for the topics they feel most passionate about.

Memory Verse:

Matthew 11:29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. NIV