

## Desiring God Pt.3-Living in Humility

In our series "Desiring God" we have looked at:

- God's 7 letters to the churches
- Seeking after righteousness with understanding the actions and rewards of a righteous person

This week we are going to look at HUMILITY.

Seeking after righteousness has to do with our vertical standing with God

Living in humility has to do with our horizontal relationships in the church and the world.

### **Main Text: Phil. 2:3-8**

Do "Nothing" from

- selfish ambition-my way or the highway
- conceit-literally "vainglory" in Greek. Seeking after self-aggrandizing things that puff you up or build you up but in reality are empty!

"In Humility"

- count others more significant...*not even equally significant* but **MORE** significant than yourself
- look to other's interest's (don't just walk your days on this earth thinking about meeting your needs, fulfilling your desires, and paying no attention to the world around you).

COVID and masks have created a whole new society of people that don't even talk to each other anymore!

People stand in line in check-outs and in grocery stores and pretend the other person is non-existent. How will we know to look to other people's needs if we don't talk to them, or at least look at them with an open mind, and willing heart?

Now with our world going more automated daily with new gadgets for ease for the "consumer", our participation in each other's lives is growing dimmer and dimmer.

\*\*\*We need to see more than ever that people are desperate for relationships and connection\*\*\*

"Have this mind..."

-living in humility and having the heart of Jesus (which we will see next) is something we must actionably display, and we have been given the greatest pattern to follow from the greatest person who ever lived!

### ***A quote from Jesus about His ministry***

**Luke 19:10**- Jesus came to seek and save the lost! (Key here is he CAME)

What did Jesus experience in His coming? While the perspectives of those he ministered to were that of awe, love, obedience, and hunger in understanding he was the Messiah, Teacher, Lord, and God (Yahweh), there was a different perspective to behold.

- 1) The Pre-incarnate Jesus had the form of God and did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped-He was existing as God the Son with God the Father and God the Spirit with perfect unilateral authority and power.

He then began the process of emptying himself of all he had-glory, total authority, knowing no pain, and being the King and ruler of the universe.

**\*Jesus never stopped being God when He became a man\***

**\*Jesus becoming fully man while being fully God is where the miracle and grace of salvation lie.**

- 2) He became a **servant**! The Ruler and King who deserves our entire life flipped roles and became the least when he was most to be feared and worshiped.

- 3) In being a servant, he was a **man**! Not only did he serve mankind, but he walked as a man, feeling all mankind feels in our imperfect world.

- 4) He **obeyed the will of the Father**. As fully man, He had to submit to His heavenly Father, just as we do in our life (**See John 18:11**). He also had the authority to stop the crucifixion. (**See Matthew 26:53-54**).

- 5) **He died the most brutal and humiliating death possible**. The Roman cross was excruciating in physical torment, and it was humiliating in its ability to emotionally destroy a

person. The Roman cross was saved for the worst of people, and the spotless Lamb of God died by its unparalleled method.

-Jesus had to bear total suffering in every way, spiritually, emotionally, and physically to bear our sins and fulfill the wrath of God.

**Isaiah 53:1-10a**

borne our griefs...carried our sorrows...pierced...crushed...chastisement upon him...  
oppressed...afflicted...a lamb led to the slaughter...judged... cut off... stricken...did  
no violence...had no deceit...

...and it WAS THE WILL OF THE LORD TO CRUSH HIM...

God the Father crushed the Lamb of God (Jesus) for you and me. This was not a death that barely satisfied the law of sin and death. It was a total annihilation of a sacrifice whereby even Jesus cried out, "My God my God why have you forsaken me?"

"Have this mind among yourselves"...

The mind of Christ is one of total service and selflessness, even to the point of death.

The mind of Christ is one of complete surrender to the Father in perfect obedience.

The mind of Christ is one of uninhibited love for those who did nothing to earn it!

What have we to lose in this life that we will not gain 100 fold in eternity?

If God called us to empty our bank accounts, to give away a car, to give radically to missions, or hey, just to buy a meal for someone, what are we losing?

If I have learned anything recently from talking with pastor's in foreign countries that lack basic needs, it is this-WE ARE RICH in America.

The church birthed in Acts chapter 2 was a radical church. What made them radical was that they acted COMPLETELY different from those around them. I am not talking about worship and preaching and speaking in tongues and healing people. I am talking about the fact that

they shared everything. The rich helped take care of the poor. There was no distinction in PERSON'S in the church. There was just THE CHURCH.

Our exhortation today is to be a church living in the humility of Christ, who emptied himself completely.

Our challenge in prayer this week will be for God to show us a way we can radically love someone by giving to them in some way. Maybe it's our time, maybe it's money, maybe it's something else.

Pray for God to open our eyes to the hurting world around us, and let us not forget we are to radically love each other in the church FIRST!