

# TRUE HUMILITY IS CONNECTED TO EXCELLENCE

TWCC TEACHING HANDOUT – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2017



- Read James 4:1- 10 (NKJV). We glean several things from these verses of Scripture at a glance: (1) Pride promotes \_\_\_\_\_ and (2) Humility cures \_\_\_\_\_; (3) Intimacy with God requires \_\_\_\_\_.
- TRUE HUMILITY IS \_\_\_\_\_ - DEPENDENT! Humility is a huge part of an \_\_\_\_\_ spirit.
- Romans 12:3 (NKJV) – “For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, **not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly**, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.” This verse tells us not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought, but it doesn’t say that we should think lower of ourselves, either. Our Father God doesn’t make junk, so to be constantly berating ourselves or hiding the good things God has given us is wrong. When we do that we are actually stealing His praise! (Read Isaiah 42:8, 11)
  - God will not share His glory with another. Neither will He tolerate us “polluting” His Name through a false sense of humility. We need to think of ourselves soberly, yet righteously.
  - IF YOU ARE TAKING CREDIT FOR A GOD-GIVEN TALENT OR ABILITY, YOU AREN’T BEING \_\_\_\_\_ AND YOU’RE LIMITING HOW GOD CAN PROMOTE YOU. SIMILARLY, IF YOU’RE CONSTANTLY BRUSHING ASIDE GOD’S PROTECTION AND BLESSING AS COINCIDENCE OR NOTHING SPECIAL, YOU ARE NOT OPERATING IN \_\_\_\_\_.
- True \_\_\_\_\_ recognizes God. We can’t walk in \_\_\_\_\_ without humility! This may be hard to hear, especially for those who have worked their whole lives to become self-sufficient, but humility is no self-sufficiency. It is not self-confidence. HUMILITY IS BEING \_\_\_\_\_ - CONFIDENT. It is being God-dependent. Humility says, “There is a God, and I’m not Him!”.
- Self-confidence or self-sufficiency is \_\_\_\_\_. Independence from God is \_\_\_\_\_. And God does not promote pride. (James 4:6 NKJV).



- The word resist means to “actively fight against.” God actively fights against pride. Under the New Covenant, God is not at war with you. He does not fight against you personally. But He does fight against pride. God will not promote \_\_\_\_\_.
- Religion has presented a warped definition of humility. It has skewed humility to mean low self-esteem. Religion has taught that debasing oneself is humility. But that can actually be pride.
- *True humility doesn't exalt self. True humility doesn't debase self. True humility isn't about self at all. Self is pride. The need to share your opinion is pride. Slandering or gossiping about someone to improve your reputation is pride. Avoiding criticism is pride. Worrying about what other people think is pride. (Read Numbers 12:3 NKJV) True humility is saying about yourself what God says about you. True humility agrees with God. If God says you are the meekest person on the planet, it would be pride for you to disagree with that. If God says you are the righteousness of God is Christ (2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJV), then you are. To say otherwise would be exalting your own opinion above God's opinion.*
- Humility knows that every good thing is a result of the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. Without the grace of God – without His supernatural ability and empowerment – we can do nothing. The grace of God gave us Christ.
- Read Titus 2:12 (NKJV). Grace teaches us to be \_\_\_\_\_ and to recognize that our position is only ours through Christ. This is the difference between an excellent spirit and one of perfectionism. The Houghton Mifflin American Heritage Electronic Dictionary defines **perfectionism** as “a tendency to set extremely high standards and to be dissatisfied with anything less” (s.v. “perfectionism”). Perfectionism is proud and arrogant. It is critical and judgmental of people, ideas, and work that doesn't meet its standard. But an excellent spirit is humble! God cannot get close to pride. (Read Psalm 138:6) Political and religious correctness is also a form of pride.
- \_\_\_\_\_ still has high standards, but it recognizes the roles that others – especially God – play in meeting those standards. True humility doesn't deny what God has done. True humility just denies that “self” had anything to do with it!
- **THE POWER OF OBEDIENCE:** Humility requires \_\_\_\_\_. It recognizes authority and yields to that authority. Those who know that the Word says to love their neighbor (Mark 12:33) and to give as God has prospered them (1 Corinthians 16:2) but then rely on God's grace to disobey the Word are fooling themselves. James said to be “doers of the word, and not hearers only” (James 1:22). People who refuse to “do” the Word because they are living under grace are not people of humility. They have not submitted themselves to God. They are prideful. They have exalted their own ideas above God's and have placed themselves on the throne of their own lives.



**Merry  
Christmas**

**DON'T COMPROMISE! An excellent spirit or attitude is the key to promotion. Yet many people think that as long as they do the right thing, they will succeed. They think that going through the motions of success will bring success. But that's not true. WRONG ATTITUDE VOIDS RIGHT ACTIONS.**