

DAY 1: HUMILITY DEFINED

“And what does the LORD require of you; but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8).

Humility is not so much defined in the Bible as it is demonstrated by the One who is humble. Humility is a central character trait of God as seen through Jesus Christ. The Old Testament word translated humility means “gentleness” and “helper.” The New Testament word for humility means “lowly in mind or position.” Humility is serving others as unto the Lord.

Pride is self-focused and self-absorbed. It presumes to know, better than God, how to follow His Word. We can fall into this trap by thinking we can find a different way and still achieve the same results on our own. Human beings are born with the root of pride in their lives. Jesus, however, was born with the root of humility in his life. Becoming born again removes the root (nature) of pride and plants within us the root (nature) of humility. Renewing the mind is a must in order to conquer pride’s residue and embrace the full benefits of humility.

Jesus rarely told people who He was, but rather served them, taught them, and showed them God’s love. He veiled his title to promote His Father! Humble people have surrendered their wills to God regardless of cost. Humble people will not explain away God’s Word when it goes contrary to personal convenience. Humble people will not listen to the voice of man, over the voice of God’s word.

PERSONAL ACTION POINTS

- Is title important to you?
- Is being recognized flattering—or not being recognized shattering?
- Do you serve others regardless of acknowledgement or praise?
- Confess any self-interest and ask the Lord for a clean heart and pure motives.

CORPORATE ACTION POINTS

- Confess any need for recognition as a ministry or congregation.
- Confess any fear of man you may be harboring.
- Ask for a greater fear of the Lord.
- Pray for a greater desire to serve than to be served.

DAY 10: THE SAFEST PLACE TO BE

*“If you make the Most High your dwelling, even the LORD, who is my refuge, then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent”
(Psalm 91:9-10).*

We don't usually associate holiness with protection, but Psalm 91 lists a whole host of promises that come to those who dwell in His presence. He is a holy God; therefore, His presence is Holy. When we learn to abide in this place of His holiness He tells us that no harm will come near us. He will cover us with His wings, just like the cherubim above the Ark of the Covenant, because He is a covenant God.

But what about all the times when harm does come? What about when disaster does strike? The verse does suggest a prerequisite before the promises. We must make His presence our dwelling. That means not just a visit once in a while. That means we must learn to make this a daily habit of living. We must practice His presence and not just visit with Him once or twice a week.

Luke 1:74-75 states that we can “serve him without fear in holiness and righteousness.” There is a correlation to living in holiness and being free from fear. When we truly live from that place of being sheltered, covered and overshadowed by the Most High God, we are in the safest place possible. He is the One who is in charge and will take care of our enemies. These are the promises that are ours as we daily draw close to His presence and His holiness.

PERSONAL ACTION POINTS

- Do you fear harm or destruction?
- Confess fears.
- Consider ways to draw closer to His holiness and live in His presence.
- Read the entire Psalm 91 as your personal promise.

CORPORATE ACTION POINTS

- Repent of any tendency to avoid His holiness out of fear or unbelief. Pray for deliverance from fears of every kind.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to renew minds to embrace His holiness as a place of safety and adoration.

DAY 15: UNITY DEFINED

“Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, ... I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you” (Philippians 1:27-28).

Unity defined is “the state of being united or joined as a whole.” Jesus defines unity as “oneness” with Him and the Father through the bond of the Holy Spirit. “I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you” (John 17:20). The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are the perfect picture of Unity. We don’t create unity, but we are told to keep it (Ephesians 4:3) as a reflection of the Father’s divine nature.

Unity is a powerful force for good or for evil. Division is usually the result of living in disobedience to the Word of God. Jesus did not pray for us to do great miracles or to bring people into his Kingdom. He specifically prayed for his Body to be in unity, which would automatically result in evangelism! “May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me” (John 17:21).

What will it require of us as His church in this city to fulfill this request? Our unity will come as a result of our connection to the Head. “They will be my people, and I will be their God. I will give them singleness of heart and action, so that they will always fear me for their own good and the good of their children after them” (Jeremiah 32:38-39).

PERSONAL ACTION POINTS

- Confess any ways in which you have been divisive by placing issues above relationships.
- Repent of any self-defense tendencies.
- Ask the Lord for singleness of heart and action in order to be an agent of unity.

CORPORATE ACTION POINTS

- Confess any ways in which unity has been undermined in the Church by people focusing on “right or wrong” instead of healthy relationships.
- Ask for greater capacity to love others for the sake of the Kingdom.