

How much of our time is spent trying to win the approval of others, gain “likes” on social media, get the “atta-boy,” or acknowledgement of a coach, friend, or even a random person we haven’t seen in years?

Until we understand we are nothing without Christ, we will not be able to live a truly humble life of serving others as He intends for us. Humility is important to God because it accurately reflects our total dependence on Him as our Creator and removes the barrier of human pride that hinders His blessings and grace.

God teaches us through humility to serve others rather than look for status. A famous C.S. Lewis quote reads “Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less.” We live in a world where we are constantly in a mind-set to prove ourselves, or may even try to “one-up” even those we say we care about. But at what cost? His love has already been won, and is all we truly need.

The Apostle Peter writes in 1 Peter 5:5-7 “... God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

When we can use our strengths for His glory rather than trying to prove our worth, humility is possible. When we can serve others and submit to God’s authority rather than lifting up ourselves, we show humility. Whether this is for missionary work at a global level, or simply listening to a friend without trying to fix or judge, validating their worth and offering your presence as a form of service.

Lord, let us carry out today with gratitude that you are our Savior, and you want to pour grace on us.

Forgive me for my pride and my desire to be noticed.

Help me to stop putting myself above others.

Give me a quiet and gentle spirit.

Teach me to listen more than I speak, and to serve others with a joyful heart.

Remind me of your great love, so I can find my true worth in you rather than in the praise of the world.

In Jesus’ name, Amen.

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