

# Humility

In a lesson called “What Does the Lord Require: based on Micah 6:8 we learned that God’s people are: ...to *do justly*, To *love mercy*, And to *walk humbly* with God.

In this study we will review and expand on what we learned about “walking humbly with God.

Humility can be tricky business. A boy was awarded a “Most Humble” badge and later had it taken away for wearing it!

First let’s examine God’s attitude towards the opposite of humility.

God hates arrogance (Prov. 8:13; 16:5; Phil 2:3; 1 Sam 2:3; 1 Pet. 5:5; Prov. 16:18; 15:25)

Why? Because we have no just cause to be arrogant. The tools get no credit for the accomplishment.

Read the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm and see what God does. The shepherd leads us for His name’s sake, not ours.

“Full of himself,” “the big head,” etc.

The prayer of the arrogant Pharisee (Lk. 18:14?)

Meanwhile, God loves humility. (Mt. 11:29; Ps. 138:6; Isa. 57:15; 66:2) lowly, contrite

He is willing to give treasures to the humble

Honor (Pr. 15:33)

Wisdom (Pr. 11:2)

Direction (Ps. 25:9)

Grace (1 Pet. 5:5)

Reassurance (Ps. 149:4)

## Examples of humility

Abraham (Ge 18:27)

Jacob (Ge 32:10)

Moses (Ex 3:11; 4:10; Num 12:3)

Joshua (Jos 7:6)

Gideon (Jg 6:15)

David (1Ch 29:14)

Hezekiah (2Ch 32:26)

Manasseh (2Ch 33:12)

Josiah (2Ch 34:27)

Job (Job 40:4; 42:6)

Isaiah (Isa 6:5)

Jeremiah (Jer 1:6)  
John the Baptist (Mt 3:14; Jn 3:30)  
Centurion (Mt 8:8)  
Woman of Canaan (Mt 15:27)  
Elizabeth (Lu 1:43)  
Peter (Lu 5:8)  
Paul (Ac 20:19; Titus 1:1)

How to cultivate humility:

Assess yourself honestly (Rom 12:3)  
Don't take success too seriously (Deut 8:13,14; Ecc 5:14)  
Celebrate the significance of others (Phil 2:3)  
Don't demand your own parking space (Lk. 14:10)  
    Pascal – "Do you wish people to speak well of you? Then never speak well of yourself." (Prov. 27:2)  
Never announce success before it occurs. (1 Ki. 20:11)  
Speak humbly (1 Sam 2:3)  
    Say "I think so and so, instead of I know so and so."  
Live at the foot of the cross (Gal. 6:14)  
    Jesus would rather die for you than live without you.

[Adapted from: Max Lucado in "Traveling Light" chapter 9, pp. 71-77.]