

Humility

1. Intro.

a. Bill Gates

- i. Why would someone do this?
- ii. Is it possible for anyone to do this?
- iii. Someone has done something similar to this.

b. On a much grander scale.

- i. Jesus
- ii. Jesus was God.
 1. John 10:30-33, *"I and the father are one." Again the Jews picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus said to them, 'I have shown you many great miracles from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?' 'We are not stoning you for any of these,' replied the Jews, 'but for blasphemy because you a mere man, claim to be God.'*
- iii. Claimed he did nothing on his own or for himself.
 1. John 5:30, *"By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me."*
 2. John 7:28, *"Then Jesus still teaching in the temple courts, cried out, 'Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from. I am not here on my own, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him, but I know him because I am from him and he sent me."*
 3. John 8:28, *"The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him."*
 4. John 8:50, *"I am not seeking glory for myself..."*

c. Reasons Jesus said these things:

- i. His humility.
 1. Phil. 2:6-8, *"Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!"*

d. What I've been told about humility.

- i. Why wouldn't we want to be humble?
 1. James 1:2, *"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds."*

e. Tonight we will look at the truth of humility and the benefits of humility.

2. True Humility

a. Jesus was perfect in humility.

- i. He is the very definition of humility
 1. He had every right to be worshiped.

- a. Remember Phil 2:6
 - i. “Who, being in very nature God...
- 2. What does he say of himself?
 - a. John 5:31, “*I do not accept praise from men.*”
 - b. Luke 22:27, “*...But I am among you as one who serves.*”
 - c. John 5:30, “*...for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.*”
- b. We are called to follow his example.**
 - i. Matt 11:29, “*Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*”
 - ii. He was completely dependent on God.
 - 1. “*His humility was simply the surrender of himself to God to allow Him to do in him what he pleased regardless of what men might say of him or do to him.*” Andrew Murray
 - 2. Phil 2:6-8, “*Who being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross.*”
 - 3. Look at his reaction to Pilate:
 - a. John 19:11, “*You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above.*”
 - i. He was obedient to what God had called him to.
 - ii. If he wasn’t perfect in humility he wouldn’t have died for us.
 - iii. He had every right to vindicate himself.
 - iii. Humility is realizing that there is nothing good in us except what comes from him.
 - 1. Romans 7:18, “*I know that nothing good lives in me...*”
 - 2. It is taking the focus off of ourselves and putting it on him.
 - 3. God hates pride.
 - a. Prov. 6:16-19, talks about the things that God hates and detests. Pride is listed among these things.
 - b. Why
 - i. Ps 10:4. “*In his pride the wicked does not seek him, in all his thoughts there is no room for God.*”
 - ii. 1 John 2:15-16, “*Do not love anything in the world. If anyone loves the world the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has*

and does-not come from the Father but from the world.

1. With pride we concern ourselves with the world and have no thought for God.
 2. We are not dependent on God.
 3. Pride separates us from God.
4. To claim to be great.
- a. We have no dependence on God. We claim our worth is from ourselves.
 - i. Remember Ps 10:4, *"In his pride the wicked does not seek him, in all his thoughts there is no room for God.*
 - b. We value ourselves over others.
 - i. We become critical, judgmental, hateful, we do not forgive, we gossip, slander, bear grudges, unloving, we compare ourselves to others, we hold others to expectations that they can't fulfill, we aren't responsible for our sin instead we point the finger at others.
 1. A good example of this.
 - a. The parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector: Luke 18:10-14
 2. What does the Bible say about this attitude?
 - a. Matt 7:3-5, *"Why do you look at the sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.*
 - b. We are deceived by pride, Gal.6:3, *"If anyone thinks that he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.*
 - c. We do not love God or our brothers.
 - i. Love is not proud. 1Cor 13:4-5
 - ii. 1 John 4:20-21, *"If anyone says, 'I love*

God, yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command, whoever loves God must also love his brother.

iii. Pride makes us unteachable. Prov. 3:10, *"Pride breeds only quarrels, but wisdom is found in those who take advice."*

c. Jesus teaches us to be humble.

- i. John 13:14, *"Now that I your Lord and Teacher have washed your feet you also should wash one another's feet."*
- ii. Matt 20:26,27, *"...whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant and whoever wants to be first must be your slave."*
- iii. Luke 9:48, *"...For who is least among you all-he is the greatest."*
- iv. Romans 12:10, *"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves."*
- v. Phil. 2:3, *"Do nothing out of selfish ambition and vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves."*
- vi. Col. 3:12, *"Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have with one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."*
- vii. Titus 3:2, *"...to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate and show true humility toward all men."*

d. Humility is not thinking of oneself as worthless

1. Jesus knew who he was.
 - a. He was one with the father
 - i. John 10:30, *"I and the father are one..."*
 - b. He was the Messiah
 - i. John 4:25,26, *"The woman said, 'I know that the Messiah' (called Christ) 'is coming. When he comes he will explain everything to us.' Then Jesus declared, 'I who speak to you am he.'"*
 - c. Those that believed in him would never die.

- i. John 11:25, *“I am the resurrection and the life...”*
 - d. He was the only way to the father.
 - i. John 14:6, *“I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me.”*
 - e. He had absolute confidence that the father heard him.
 - i. John 11:41,42, *“...Father I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me...”*
- 2. To claim to be worthless without abilities is to claim that you gain your worth from yourself. It is also not being dependent on God. Not humbling yourself before God.
 - a. Both thoughts need to be put to death.
- 3. The truth behind who God has made us.
 - a. Hebrews 10:14, *“...because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.”*
 - b. We are his children!
- 4. Let this truth humble us.
 - a. Romans 7:18, *“I know that nothing good lives in me.”*
 - i. We are all in the same boat.
 - b. 2 Cor. 12:9, *“My grace is sufficient for you for my power is made perfect in your weakness.”*
 - c. 1 Cor. 6:20, *“...you were bought at a price...”*
 - i. *This price was the death of Jesus. How arrogant to think that we are worth more or less than this price. We are all sinners saved by GRACE!*
- 5. It is not our sin that needs to humble us but his grace.
 - a. True humility is our complete dependence on God, not ourselves. To have killed our flesh and to have become nothing before God willing to be used by him in any way he desires.
- 6. *“Humility leads to perfect death. Humility means giving up self, taking the place of perfect nothingness before God.”*
Andrew Murray
- 7. Gal. 2:20, *“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”*
- 8. We don't learn humility on our own.
 - a. Thinking that we can attain humility is not being dependent on God. **Remember Gal. 2:20**

9. Looking at his example

a. Phil. 2:6-8

- i. He came to serve
- ii. he was obedient, completely dependent on God.

3. **Benefits of Humility:**

a. **God says humility brings honor.**

- i. Prov. 15:33, *“The fear of the Lord teaches wisdom and humility comes before honor.”*

b. **Loving the Lord...**

- i. We will have complete dependence on him. With pride we go our own way.
- ii. We will love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind and strength because we have made him our focus.
- iii. We will have the right attitude before God.

c. **Loving our neighbors...**

- i. We will love our neighbors as ourselves.
- ii. We will see others in light of our complete nothingness before God, because of his Grace.
- iii. We won't feel the need to compare ourselves or be critical towards others.
- iv. *“Be not angry that you cannot make others as you wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself as you wish yourself to be.”*
Thomas A Kempis

d. **Character development...**

- i. Humility makes us teachable.
 1. It is only when we are teachable that God can work in us.
 2. *“Humility is the only soil in which virtue takes root; a lack of humility is the explanation of every defect and failure.”*
Andrew Murray

4. **Conclusion:**

a. **Humility is our complete dependence on God and when we get to that place we shall be able to Love God and others completely.**

b. **End with this verse.**

- i. **Phil. 2:5-8**, *“Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross.”*