

STUDY I – PRINCIPLE OF HUMILITY

HUMILITY (Body Preference) – We consider others more significant than ourselves.

Introduction:

In this session, we will cover **humility** in the Body of Christ.

Humility is a Christlike trait. Jesus devoted Himself to a lifestyle of humility during His walk on earth:

- Jesus took the place of a slave and **washed** His disciples' feet on the night of His betrayal, and He commanded us to do likewise (John 13:1-17)
- Jesus set aside His equality with God and came to earth as a slave to suffer the death on the cross (Philippians 2:6-8) for our sins (Galatians 1:4)
- Jesus invited us all to come to Him because He was humble in heart (Matthew 11:28-30)

We are instructed to first humble ourselves under God's mighty hand, which comes with a promise of exaltation (1 Peter 5:6). When we humble ourselves under the hand of God, doing so will affect all our other relationships.

When our relationships are good and our circumstances are favorable, we are to humbly receive these blessings from God's gracious hand. When people mistreat us and our circumstances are difficult, we are to humbly accept these challenges as from an infinitely wise and loving heavenly Father. Having humility under God's hand means we recognize God is in control in all circumstances. What does the application of humility look like in our lives?

APPLICATION OF HUMILITY

I want you to envision being a part of a church body where members walk in humility with one another. Each member submits to instruction and correction, like Apollos (Acts 18:24-28). Members mutually submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21). Members honor one another above themselves (Romans 12:10).

In Romans 12:3, Paul commands the Roman church to walk in humility with one another:

Study Scripture: v.3. For by the **grace given** to me I say to everyone among you **not to think** of himself **more highly** than he ought to **think**, but to **think with sober judgment** (humility), each according to the **measure of faith** that God has assigned.

In verse three, Paul instructed the Roman church, whose members were divided and puffed up by their gifts, to put their gifts in proper perspective. The key phrases of this verse are "**not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think**" and "**to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.**"

The application of humility is to not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to and to think with sober judgment according to the faith God has given you.

Study Questions:

1. What does it mean to think more **highly** of yourself than you **ought to think**?

References: Genesis 3:5-6; Isaiah 14:12-14; Psalms 14:1

2. What does it mean to think with **sober judgment**?

References: Philippians 2:3-4; I Corinthians 3:7, 4:7, 15:10; I Timothy 1:15

3. How does our humility under God's mighty hand impact all our other relationships?

References: Ephesians 5:21; Philippians 2:2-4; Matthew 5:43-48

4. How do we show humility towards the Scriptures?

References: Exodus 24:7; 2 Timothy 3:16-17

5. What did Jesus teach us about humility in John 13:1-17?

Actions to take: How will you walk in humility in the Body of Christ?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Verse to Ponder: James 4:10 (ESV). **Humble yourselves** before the Lord, and he will **exalt** you.