

# Community Group Discussion Questions

“Humble Pie”      Philippians 2:1-11      Nov 4/5

## Getting Started

In the English dictionary the word “honor” comes before the word “humility”. However, in the economy of God’s kingdom what seems logical is not always lasting. Therefore, if you seek honor, then choose humility, but know that when you choose humility, it will lead you to not seek honor, but bestow it.

Thinking back over your life, were you taught to seek after honor, accomplishments, and recognition, or were you taught to be humble? What did those messages sound like? What are some ways we can remind ourselves, our families, and our children to seek humility?

## Going Deeper

I. The Essence of Humility: (1-2)

A. The Meaning: “So, if there” (1)

“Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it is thinking of yourself less.”  
- C.S. Lewis

B. The Motivation: 4 x “any” (1)

C. The Message: “same” (2)

To understand 2:1-2, we need to go back and **read 1:27**.

This church had some personal struggles amongst themselves, some people who were not getting along and seeing eye to eye. Notice how he asks them to have one spirit, one mind, and striving side by side for the faith of the Gospel. We simply can’t dilute our witness to the world by petty squabbling among ourselves. In your relationships with other Christians, what are some ways you can “let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ”?

## II. The Expression of Humility: (3-4)

- A. Consider Others: “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit” (3)
- B. Champion Others: “count others more significant” (3)
- C. Cover Others: “the interest of others” (4)

We are all significant in God’s eyes, yet for us to be humble, Paul tells us to count others as “super significant.” Most modern news is based on conflict, scandal, and arguments. Paul says we are to reject rivalry and conceit. What are some ways we can consider others, especially those we might disagree with, as “super significant?” How can we serve their interests before our own?

## III. The Example of Humility: (5-8)

- A. His Equality: “form of God” (6)
- B. He Emptied: “form of a servant” (7)
- C. He Embodied: “born in the likeness of men” (7)
- D. He Exchanged: “death on a cross” (8)

None of us have seen heaven or can imagine what perfect relationship feels like among the Father, Son, and Spirit. Yet, Jesus willingly laid all of that aside so He could come and save us from our sins by being rejected, beaten, and killed. Paul says we have the mind of Christ. If we think of ourselves like Christ thought of Himself, what would it look like for you to become a servant to others today? Where can you live this out?

## IV. The Exaltation of Humility: (9-11)

- A. Exaltation: “highly exalted Him” (9)
- B. Designation: “bestowed upon Him the name” (9)
- C. Glorification: “Jesus Christ is Lord” (11)

Our culture values success and winning, but it is the wrong kind of success and winning. Any victory won on this earth is temporary. What Jesus accomplished on the cross is eternal life for all who believe. His example of humility to the point of death was regarded as the highest of successes by God the Father. If we recognize that humility is the quality God values,

and that eternal rewards may be ours for pursuing a humble life, what changes would you make today? How would you redefine success and winning? How would you explain your new convictions to your family and friends?

*Take Away:* The Exam of Humility

The acrostic below can be a very helpful tool. Ask yourself, 'Am I...'

- **H**elpful
- **U**nseen
- **M**indful
- **I**nviting
- **L**ifting
- **I**ntentional
- **T**eachable
- **Y**ielding

As you take on the mind of Christ and allow His humility to live in you, you will see yourself growing in each of these attributes. Which one of them do you want Jesus to start growing in you today?

**Prayer Requests**