Title: “The Greatest”

Text: 1 Peter 5:5-6:  *Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”* 6 Humbly yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you.

Target: C.S. Lewis said it best when he stated: humility is not thinking less of yourself, it is thinking of yourself less. Therefore, in the effort to live a life of irresistible influence as winsome, how does one choose to develop a virtue that is designed to give, not gain?

I. The **Height** of Humility: “Clothe” (Vs. 5)
   a. Incarnation: Took on Flesh (John 1:14, Philippians 2:1-9)
   b. Demonstration: Took on Fabric (John 13:1-5)
   c. Confrontation: Took on Fame (Mark 9:33-35)

II. The **Honesty** in Humility: “all of you” & “God opposes” (Vs. 5)
   a. Pinnacle of Pride: Begins with Covetousness (Isaiah 14:13-14)
   b. Peril of Pride: Belittles Contentment (Genesis 3:1-6, 1 John 2:16)
   c. Problem of Pride: Benefits are Costly (Proverbs 3:34)

III. The **Heart** of Humility: “Humble yourselves” & “under the mighty hand of God” (Vs. 6)
   a. Submission of the Will: Recognition of Grace (John 3:30)
   b. Sentiment of your Worth: Redefined for Glory (Ephesians 2:10)
   c. Spirit’s internal Work: Revelation of Godliness (Galatians 5:22-26)

IV. The **Honor** from Humility: “the proper time he may exalt you” (Vs. 6)
   a. Patient in Waiting: “kairos” is not referencing time, but transformation.
   b. Purpose in Wording: “Humility comes before Honor”
      i. Proverbs 15:33
      ii. Proverbs 18:22

Take Away: The pursuit of a life marked with the *Winsome characteristic of “Humility” is a life long pursuit! Pursue Jesus, trust the work of the Holy Spirit, and witness the work of these Virtues begin to be said about you:

- Helpful
- Unseen
- Mindful
- Inviting
- Lifting
• Intentional
• Teachable
• Yielding