

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 *Humble 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**