

# Be Humble or You'll Stumble



Name a person you think of as "humble":

\_\_\_\_\_

Read the key verse (Micah 6:8) and explain how you can tell if someone.....

lives justly. \_\_\_\_\_

loves mercy. \_\_\_\_\_

walks humbly with God. \_\_\_\_\_

Humbling yourself means (circle one)....

- A. letting people walk all over you instead of standing up for what you believe.
- B. putting other peoples needs ahead of your own.
- C. always playing the part of a martyr.

Relate two situations where you have seen Matthew 23:12 proven true .

A person exalted himself by: \_\_\_\_\_

How was that person "abased"? \_\_\_\_\_

.....

A person showed humility by: \_\_\_\_\_

How was that person "exalted"? \_\_\_\_\_

# He Who Humbles Himself...

Jesus wants us to know how important it is to humble ourselves. Some people think that if you are humble you will be ashamed or embarrassed or think poorly of yourself. True humility is when you are free of self—when you look to God for your strength! Humility brings contentment. Jesus can make that happen in your life. The story below is a paraphrase of Luke 14:7-11. Use the words on the list below to complete the paraphrased parable.

Jesus went to eat a meal at the home of one of the chief Pharisees one sabbath day. When He noticed that the invited guests were seating themselves at the places of honor, He began telling them a parable:

SIT  
YOU  
LAST  
MORE  
WILL  
PLACE  
SHAME  
CHOOSE  
FRIEND  
EXALTED  
HUMBLES  
WEDDING  
EVERYONE

“When you are invited by someone to attend a \_\_\_\_\_, do not \_\_\_\_\_ to sit yourself in a place of honor, because a person who is \_\_\_\_\_ honorable than you may also have been invited by him, and the person who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give that \_\_\_\_\_ to this man.’ Then you will feel \_\_\_\_\_ as you go to occupy the \_\_\_\_\_ place. Instead, when you are invited, go and \_\_\_\_\_ at the last place. Then, when the person who invited you sees where you are sitting, he may say to you, ‘\_\_\_\_\_, move to a more honorable seat.’ At that time \_\_\_\_\_ will have honor in the presence of all the others who sit at the meal with you. For \_\_\_\_\_ who exalts himself \_\_\_\_\_ be humbled, and he who \_\_\_\_\_ himself will be \_\_\_\_\_.”

*Illustrate this story with a balloon.*

*Using a permanent marker, draw an unhappy face on a balloon.*

*For a more dramatic effect, use a standard 12-inch doll (such as Ken®) and attach the inflated balloon around doll's neck with a rubber band.*

This is Freddy. Freddy looks weird, but Freddy doesn't know it. He used to look like a normal kid, but every time he did something well, he got *puffed up* about it. Freddy began to think he was great.

Freddy got an A in Math and bragged to all his friends. He won first place in the school-wide poster contest, and made a big deal about his talents. He pitched a no-hit game, and then he was *really puffed up*. He told the coach they ought to rename the team "Freddy and Company"!

Freddy thought it was great to show off and brag about his talents. He was so proud his head became all puffed up.

One day in Sunday School the teacher read from the Bible: **A man's pride shall bring him low; but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.** He taught them about the Pharisee and the Publican, how God heard the Publican's prayers because he was humble and repentant, but God ignored the Pharisee because he was proud and puffed up. Freddy said, "I'm sure glad I'm not like that!"

Before school started, they had a Sunday School picnic. Freddy thought, "Oh, I'll make a big splash at the picnic and everyone will notice me". Freddy rode his bike to church and arrived late so everyone would see him. He came into the parking lot fast, with his hands behind his head, instead of on the handlebars. But he wasn't looking where he was going and CRASH! – (POP BALLOON or LET AIR OUT) down he went, right into the food table. Hot dogs and cupcakes, punch and potato chips went flying everywhere! All the kids were mad at Freddy and blamed him for ruining their picnic.

But one little boy ran to help Freddy. He was a deaf boy and had a hard time making friends. Freddy was so glad someone cared! He spent the rest of the time at the picnic eating ice cream with the deaf boy and playing games with him. They became friends.

Freddy helped him with his Math homework; they drew pictures together and Freddy showed him how to draw horses, dogs and leopards. Freddy taught him how to throw, pitch Softball, and how to catch. One day the deaf boy told Freddy, "You're the best friend in the world." Then Freddy realized what the Bible said was true: Pride will bring you down, but when you humble yourself, the Lord will lift you up.

# HUMILITY

Read 1 Peter 5:5, 6

What is Humility? Circle the correct answers:

being kind	not thinking you're better than others	
loving the world	praying long prayers	being obedient

What is the opposite of Humility?

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Who should be humble?

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Why should I be humble?

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Read Proverbs 29:23

What will happen if I'm proud?

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What will God do for me if I'm humble?

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Write one way you can show Humility:

At school: \_\_\_\_\_

At home: \_\_\_\_\_

At church: \_\_\_\_\_

# WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD

A person must be humble if he wants to gain God's favor. The word *humble* means "not proud or arrogant; modest; respectful." The verses below help us to understand what it means to be humble. The bold words in the verses below are hidden in the word-find. Circle each one you find.

"Likewise, ye **younger**, **submit** yourselves unto the **elder**. Yea, all of you be subject one to **another**, and be clothed with **humility**: for God **resisteth** the **proud**, and giveth **grace** to the **humble**. Humble yourselves therefore under the **mighty** hand of **God**, that he may **exalt** you in **due** time." — 1 Peter 5:5-6

W I N N E R E W I N N E  
R W G O D C L I N N R E  
R W I N A U D N H E E R  
W T I R N N E E U R S W  
M I G H T Y R I M N I N  
E M R W I O N N B E S R  
W B I N H U M I L I T Y  
D U O R P N N E E L E R  
W S I N N G E R A W T I  
N N E R W E I X N N H E  
R W I N N R E H T O N A

## Agree/Disagree Statements About Humility

1. Only super-spiritual saints are really humble.
2. Humility is not really important for Christians.
3. Christians should let God show them whether or not they are humble.
4. God does not expect teenagers to be humble.
5. People miss out on God's best if they aren't humble.
6. God hates pride.
7. People who are humble are usually whimps.
8. Most Christians are humble enough.
9. You can't be a real friend unless you are humble.
10. If a person is humble, he or she is quiet by nature.
11. Ministers have to be more humble than other Christians.
12. Ministers have to work harder at being humble than other Christians.
13. If you are not humble, there is not much you can do about it.
14. A humble person will have a lot of friends.
15. It is possible to be humble just part of the time.
16. Being humble means you do not stand up for yourself.
17. Humility is not really relevant to life today.
18. You can learn to be humble.
19. Humility shows a lack of self-esteem.
20. It is possible to determine whether or not you are humble.

## Comments on Agree/Disagree Statements About Humility

1. Not necessarily. Even beginning Christians can understand humility and have that attitude.
2. Yet it is! The Bible says that God hates a proud look, and pride is listed among the deadly sins.
3. True. Other people can't be a reliable judge because they don't see your heart. However, the way you come across to others may be different than how you see yourself!
4. Everyone needs to be humble. There is such a thing as Christian growth, but God helps everyone to see their need of humility, no matter what their age.
5. Yes. If they are proud, they will miss out on eternity in Heaven!
6. True. See Proverbs 8:13.
7. Not so. The Bible says Moses was the meekest man on earth, but he was the man God chose to lead the Children of Israel. Humble people will listen to instructions.
8. We will let God be the Judge of that.
9. Some people may be friendly and have other good qualities that make them a good friend, but a proud attitude is likely to cause offense at some time. A humble spirit will make friends quicker than someone who is pushy, obnoxious, and boastful.
10. Not necessarily. God can mold any type of personality.
11. They won't be very usable or effective for God unless they are humble. In their position, things will be said about them or done to them that they will have to leave with God and let Him take care of. But this is also true for every Christian.
12. Yes. Ministers are often more under attack by the enemy—the front line, so to speak. The devil will especially try to make them fall because he knows their fall will affect many others. In any position of leadership, a person must continually remember that it is God who leads and supplies the ability.
13. Not true. You can pray and ask God to help you develop humility.
14. Not necessarily. There is more to friendship than just one characteristic.
15. Certain situations are easier than others in which to be humble.
16. Not true. You still have principles that apply.
17. Yes it is. God's Word stands for all generations. In fact, it is more relevant today as it stands in opposition to current humanistic thinking.
18. Yes. It comes with submission of self.
19. False!
20. God can help you recognize if you need to come up in this area.